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Slowdown in START Talks Due to Differences

LD0708175590 Moscow TASS in English 1735 GMT 7 Aug 90

[By TASS military news analyst Vladimir Chernyshev]

[Text] Moscow August 7 TASS—Is it possible to finalise the elaboration of a Strategic Offensive Arms Reduction Treaty (S.T.A.R.T.) between the Soviet Union and the United States by the end of this year?

After the Soviet-U.S. summit in Washington it seemed that a solid foundation for the treaty had been laid. A number of complex problems that hindered the attainment of accord were resolved during the summit. At the time all that seemed to remain was the coordination of technicalities, a situation delegations in Geneva could easily resolve.

However, developments at the Geneva talks over recent weeks do not confirm this point of view. Work has practically ground to a halt due to differences on more than ten points.

The U.S. side demands larger cuts in Soviet heavy missiles than was agreed upon previously and on limitations on Soviet backfire bombers.

In addition, Washington's attempts to sever the connection between strategic offensive arms reduction and the observance of the ABM [Anti Ballistic Missile] treaty may become a serious hindrance at the talks.

The sides failed to agree on such issues as the possible use of nuclear warheads from dismantled strategic weapons, the transfer of U.S. armaments and military technologies to Britain, and measures to verify the observance of a future agreement.

Why did the decade-old debate suddenly gain new life at a time when the basic outlines of a new treaty have been formulated and virtually endorsed by President Gorbachev and President Bush?

Perhaps Washington's position has been influenced by those American circles that are interested in dragging out the finalisation of the treaty or "burying" it altogether.

There are ever more frequent calls in the United States, urging the administration "to raise the stakes" and seek changes in the already shaped accord, changes that would set greater limitations on Soviet missiles.

To follow this "advice" would mean to begin everything anew and to lose everything positive that has been achieved over many years through the efforts of the two sides.

The talks will not end upon the signing of the first treaty. The United States already agreed with the Soviet proposal to begin to discuss the possibility of elaborating a second treaty in order to give continuity to the nuclear arms reduction process.

The first treaty should be completed as soon as possible. Let it be a modest step, but it should make it possible to curb unlimited rivalry in the strategic field.

If Washington displays genuine interest in further cuts, it will have the opportunity to suggest them at subsequent talks. Moscow would fully support such an approach.

Karpov Remarks on U.S. Article on Arms Talks

LD0708205390 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1800 GMT 7 Aug 90

[Interview with USSR Deputy Foreign Minister Viktor Pavlovich Karpov, by correspondent Viktor Levin on 7 August; place not given—recorded]

[Text] [Announcer] The U.S. newspaper THE WASHINGTON POST has published an article on the progress of the Geneva negotiations on limiting strategic offensive weapons. The newspaper writes that the negotiations have practically ground to a halt. Our diplomatic correspondent Viktor Levin met USSR Deputy Foreign Minister Viktor Pavlovich Karpov today. Listen to an extract from the recording of their conversation:

[Begin recording] [Levin] The article in THE WASHINGTON POST newspaper has prompted a wide reaction in the world press, and I have noticed that even our friends from NEUES DEUTSCHLAND newspaper have drawn a very pessimistic conclusion on the progress of the negotiations on reducing strategic offensive weapons, on the basis of THE WASHINGTON POST piece. Therefore, I have this question for you. How far does THE WASHINGTON POST article correspond to reality, and how are the Geneva negotiations actually going?

[Karpov] I would say that the issues about which Geoffrey Smith writes are indeed being discussed at the Geneva negotiations. However, the interpretation is, of course, a matter for the author's own conscience. It is important to note the following: Time is indeed rapidly approaching the moment when the negotiations will have to reach an end and texts will have to be prepared for signing by the presidents of the USSR and the United States. There is less and less of that time remaining, and it has to be used effectively. From that point of view, we have serious complaints against the U.S. delegation at Geneva. It has to be said that they are working without taking account of what we regard as this time factor: slowly, vacillating, often citing their lack of instructions from Washington. Of course, that does not encourage progress.

As for the essence of the question, then yes, indeed, there are very serious questions connected with what I would call serious political problems. These are the question of noncircumvention of the agreement, the question of the deployment of strategic weapons on the territory of third countries, not only the territory of the USSR and the United States, but that of other countries too, and questions connected with verification. These questions are virtually the heart of what an accord will have to be reached on before we move on to the text of the treaty.

[Levin] Please, Viktor Pavlovich, say whether you consider it possible to draw up the treaty to a state where the presidents of the USSR and the United States will be able to sign it before the end of this year.

[Karpov] I would say that, all the same, such a possibility does exist. But this requires very energetic efforts, and this has been discussed now at the USSR foreign minister's meeting with the U.S. secretary of state in Irkutsk. [end recording]

[Announcer] The conversation with USSR Deputy Foreign Minister Karpov will be broadcast in full on All-Union Radio tomorrow.

Chernyshev Views U.S. Stance on SS-18's

LD0808102990 Moscow TASS in English 1011 GMT 8 Aug 90

[By TASS military writer Vladimir Chernyshev]

[Text] Moscow August 8 TASS—Soviet heavy missiles, known in the United States as SS-18s, are being used by Washington at the Geneva talks as an excuse to block an early formulation of a treaty on cuts in strategic offensive arms. It should be said that the stand of the U.S. Administration in this matter seems strange and illogical.

The Soviet Union agreed to cut by half those weapons in strategic nuclear potential that cause special concern in the United States—the number of SS-18 missiles will be cut from 308 to 154. The total number of warheads on ballistic missiles and the payload of ballistic missiles will also be reduced.

In addition, Moscow agrees not to install SS-18 missiles on mobile launchers and not to replace them with any new type of heavy missiles. The Soviet Union thus agrees to considerable restrictions on its heavy missiles.

U.S. representatives view this as one of the most important achievements at the talks. Thus, U.S. Secretary of State James Baker, speaking at the hearings in the House Foreign Affairs Committee, said that not a single system will be subjected to so tough restrictions as SS-18 missiles.

He said that the Soviet Union's ability to modernise SS-18 missiles will not offset the 50 per cent cuts. He said that when the treaty goes into effect, Soviet heavy missiles, even after modernisation, will be "less menacing" than prior to the reduction.

It would seem the Soviet Union has done its utmost to ease the anxiety of the partners in the talks over the strike potential of Soviet strategic offensive forces.

Nevertheless, contrary to the obvious fact recognised even by Washington, U.S. negotiators in Geneva continue to demand further limitations of Soviet heavy missiles.

If Washington is really interested in an early drafting of a treaty on strategic offensive arms cuts, it should stop making ever more demands, especially in view of the fact that the statement about the future talks records the Soviet promise to discuss heavy intercontinental ballistic missiles during subsequent talks.

Warsaw Pact To Continue as Security Guarantor

LD0808090990 Moscow TASS in English 0851 GMT 8 Aug 90

[By TASS correspondent Oleg Moskovskiy]

[Text] Moscow August 8 TASS—The Warsaw Treaty continues to act as a guarantor of security in Europe, Warsaw Treaty Armed Forces Chief of Staff Vladimir Lobov said here.

Lobov was commenting on the first meeting of the interim commission of government representatives of Warsaw Treaty member-states, held in Prague in mid-July.

The meeting was called in compliance with a decision made by the latest conference of the Pact's Political Consultative Committee.

Lobov told TASS that the commission is drafting proposals to review all aspects of Warsaw Treaty activities.

He believes that the meeting confirmed the interest of allied states in the existence of the Warsaw Treaty at the present stage.

"I disagree with claims that the Warsaw Treaty has stopped to be a guarantor of security in Europe," Lobov said. He believes that the Warsaw Treaty's destiny is linked with changes in central and East European countries.

In his opinion, the developments in Europe show that political solutions are coming to the fore.

Under the present circumstances, the military structures of the Warsaw Treaty and NATO are becoming useless, the general stressed. He added that Europe's future and stability on the continent depend on the Warsaw Treaty's transformation into a political alliance.

"At the same time this presupposes reciprocal moves by NATO," Lobov said.

Admiral Interviewed on Anniversary of Pact

90UM0589A Moscow RABOCHAYA TRIBUNA in Russian 13 May 90 p 3

[Interview with Admiral N. Khovrin, by RABOCHAYA TRIBUNA correspondent V. Shchedrin: "The Guarantor of Stability"]

[Text] Admiral N. Khovrin, deputy commander in chief of the Combined Forces of the participating nations of the Warsaw Pact, responds to questions from a RABOCHAYA TRIBUNA newspaper correspondent.

[Khovrin] I will say straightaway that we are not spoiled by the attention of the press and that the reason for this is not that we are closemouthed. Rather, it is the lack of initiative on the part of you journalists.

[Shchedrin] But, Nikolay Ivanovich, you will agree that literally just a few years ago everything that was written about the Warsaw Pact was just a ceremonial report about the monolithic nature of the Warsaw Pact and the indestructibility of its armed forces. Will the current leaders of the Warsaw Pact be sufficiently frank with representatives of the press now that such significant changes have taken place in the political and social lives of the East European nations, which, obviously, will influence the future of the Warsaw Pact as well?

[Khovrin] And why not? If you are addressing this question to me, I am responding. The processes taking place within the nations of East Europe simply must influence the fate of the Warsaw Pact. For example, the task of "de-ideologizing" the Warsaw Pact is obvious. Until recently, it was felt that the unity of the combined nations is based upon a shared ideology. Is this the case? Take a look at the text of the Pact. Nowhere is there any mention of the need for Warsaw Pact nations to belong to any ideological-political and social-economic system. This means that the Warsaw Pact was dictated primarily by the national interests of its participants, which to this time remains the unifying force. For this reason, in spite of the changes taking place in the nations of East Europe, the objective community of the Warsaw Pact member nations is preserved.

[Shchedrin] We are witnesses to significant positive shifts in European and world politics on the whole. Does this have anything to do with the fact that the goals and tasks of the Warsaw Pact at the present stage need to be reexamined in a new context?

[Khovrin] To a certain degree, yes. For 35 years the unified governments have consistently and actively pursued a policy of peace, as a result of which a tragic cycle, which has prevailed over the European continent over a period of centuries, has been broken. This cycle brought war—a brief respite of peace—and war. However, the danger of both nuclear and conventional war still has not been completely eliminated. For this reason, one of the main tasks of the Warsaw Pact in present day conditions is to pursue a policy in the interests of maintaining peace in Europe, creating a system of collective security, and making it possible to build a "common European home."

There is another important task for the Warsaw Pact. So that the nations of East Europe and the Soviet Union do not remain the stepsons of a rich and prospering 21st century Europe, they need to join together to solve their internal problems and to raise their economy to a modern, world standard.

And, of course, the task of ensuring their own national security and the preparedness of the combined armed forces to repel any aggression from without still remains very important. The situation in the center of Europe in connection with the impending unification of the two German states is not sufficiently thought out. Truthfully, our government, being governed primarily by common sense, is not demanding that the FRG abandon NATO if the GDR leaves the Warsaw Pact. But no one is saying that we would welcome the move of a unified Germany into the formerly hostile North Atlantic Treaty Organization.

As is known, there are two aspects to the unification of the German states: the internal governmental and the external aspects. The external aspect has to do with the level of military arms, security and borders. In resolving these matters one must come up with a formula, which would totally eliminate the threat to Germany's neighbors.

[Shchedrin] Since this task is so critical, will the unilateral steps of the Warsaw Pact nations, which were taken in recent years for the staged reduction of their military hardware, not have a negative influence upon its solution? The figures of the reductions have been reported in the press more than once. They are sufficiently imposing. And after all NATO has not followed through with a response to these reductions. What is going on?

[Khovrin] I am acquainted with pronouncements such as these. They are totally confined to the fabrication of points of view, which our political expert alone has generalized along these lines: They say that the bridge has been built wider than the river itself. Let us be realists! Any government which has reduced its army by a half million men and has gotten rid of thousands of tanks and artillery and mortar systems undoubtedly will become weaker. But we have taken these steps because the world situation permitted it. And the initial point of departure was not superiority, about which the respected academician Arbatov writes, but strategic military parity.

In addition, at the present time on the basis of the military build-up of the armed forces of the participating Warsaw Pact governments we have come up with the principle of defensive sufficiency. And this makes it possible to carry out significant unilateral reductions of military forces and military expenditures, without permitting, which is very important, a reduction in the combat potential of the combined armed forces. And the fact that NATO has not followed our example is a pity. Such a position does not strengthen confidence between peoples.

[Shchedrin] Nikolay Ivanovich, at the present time are there any contacts between the leaders of NATO and the Warsaw Pact?

[Khovrin] At the very least, it would be strange not to take advantage of such a possibility. Last year, for example, the first, though unofficial meeting of the commanders in chief of the Combined Armed Forces of the Warsaw Pact and NATO was held. The chief of the General Staff of the Warsaw Pact has spoken at a session of the North Atlantic Assembly. In addition, some government representatives of the Warsaw Pact nations visited NATO headquarters in Brussels, where they met with NATO General Secretary Werner who, by the way, is expected to visit the USSR in the near future.

However, there is still no basis to speak of the regularity and results of these contacts; although, undoubtedly, these first, and we believe, significant steps in this direction have been taken. We will hope that such meetings will become the rule. But the usefulness of this is not in question: It is better to explain your positions at the negotiating table than on the battlefield. And there must be more openness between the military leaders of NATO and the Warsaw Pact. The honest clarification of intentions of the two sides will speed up the process of negotiating arms reductions and decrease the lack of trust between them, which, unfortunately, has accumulated more than sufficiently during the years of the cold war.

[Shchedrin] And the final question, Comrade Admiral. While celebrating the 35th anniversary of its formation, the Warsaw Pact, figuratively speaking, is entering an age of maturity. Is it possible that some sort of evolution and new qualitative changes of all of its structures will follow? Could you make a prediction on the development of these processes?

[Khovrin] You know, in general, I am not an advocate of long-term political predictions. But rather than avoid answering your question, I will say straight out: At the present time there is no other alternative mechanism which could more effectively influence the stability of the situation on the European continent than the Warsaw Pact. Beyond that, reach your own conclusion.

Moscow To Make 'Important' Statement

AU0808114490 Paris AFP in English 1137 GMT 8 Aug 90

[Text] Moscow, Aug 8 (AFP)—The Soviet Union is to make an "important and significant" statement in the next few hours, a Foreign Ministry official said Wednesday, without revealing if it concerned the Gulf crisis.

The announcement came from Yuriy Volkov, head of the ministry's press department.

Ministry spokesman Yuriy Gremitskikh earlier refused to comment when asked by AGENCE FRANCE-PRESSE what the Soviet Union's position was on the deployment of U.S. troops in Saudi Arabia to discourage a possible Iraqi invasion.

TASS Reports on UN Sanctions Against Iraq

Council Expresses 'Alarm'

LD0608201890 Moscow TASS in English 1949 GMT 6 Aug 90

[By TASS correspondent Mikhail Kochetkov]

[Text] United Nations August 6 TASS—The UNSC [United Nations Security Council] met here today to discuss broad economic sanctions against Iraq.

A draft resolution submitted before the council expressed alarm over continuing Iraqi aggression against Kuwait, stressing the need to put an end to it and restore Kuwait's sovereignty, independence and territorial integrity.

The resolution envisaged measures by all states to ban imports from Iraq and Kuwait.

It also envisaged other measures to stop arms exports and financial and economic aid to Iraq or Kuwait.

Speaking at the meeting, Kuwaiti Ambassador to the United Nations Muhammad 'Abd-al-Hasan said that despite Iraqi claim that it had begun withdrawing troops from Kuwait, Baghdad is strengthening its hold on the country under the cover of a puppet army being set up there.

Iraq has no plans to implement the UN Security Council resolution on an imediate and unconditional withdrawal of troops from Kuwait, he stressed, calling on Council members to support sanctions against Iraq. Iraq's United Nations Representative 'Abd-al-Amir al-Anbari maintained that his government had begun to withdraw troops from Kuwait.

The draft resolution will impede the withdrawal, he said.

He denounced the United States, saying that it had imposed its will on the Security Council. The proposed resolution will have a negative effect on the economy of developing countries, he said.

Iraq has failed to comply with Resolution 660 passed on August 2, U.S. Representative Thomas Pickering said.

Iraq maintains that it had begun the pull-out. In reality, pledges to withdraw the troops have turned out a lie, he stressed.

The resolution on sweeping sanctions is supported by Canada, Great Britain, France, China, Finland, the Soviet Union, Zaire, and Ethiopia.

'Sweeping Sanctions' Approved

LD0608202290 Moscow TASS in English 2017 GMT 6 Aug 90

[By TASS correspondent Mikhail Kochetkov]

[Text] United Nations August 6 TASS—The UN Security Council imposed sweeping economic sanctions against Iraq today.

The resolution, supported by 13 members (Cuba and Yemen abstained) expressed deep concern over continuing Iraqi aggression against Kuwait.

It called for an end to the aggression and the restoration of Kuwait's sovereignty, independence and territorial integrity.

The resolution bars imports and exports of virtually all products and commodities to and from Iraq and Iraqi-occupied Kuwait.

It also includes an embargo on arms or other military equipment, as well as financial and economic aid.

It calls on all states to abide by the resolution's provisions, regardless of any previous commitments.

Soviet Envoy Cited on Decision

LD0708082190 Moscow TASS in English 0742 GMT 7 Aug 90

[By TASS correspondent Mikhail Kochetkov]

[Text] United Nations August 7 TASS—The UN Security Council decided to introduce sweeping economic sanctions against Iraq on Monday.

A resolution adopted by 13 votes, with two abstentions (Yemen and Cuba), expresses deep concern over Iraq's continued occupation of Kuwait, stressing a desire to end the invasion and to restore Kuwait's sovereignty, independence and territorial integrity.

The Security Council determined that Iraq has failed to withdraw its troops to the positions they held on August 1, 1990 and usurped the authority of the legitimate Kuwaiti Government.

For this purpose the council requested all states to ban the import of all commodities and products from Iraq or Kuwait.

The resolution also provides for other measures which should prevent the transfer to Iraq or Kuwait of weapons or any other military equipment as well as financial or economic resources.

The document calls on all states to act in strict compliance with the provisions of the resolution, despite previous agreements. The council decided to set up a committee, consisting of all the council members, which should monitor the implementation of this resolution.

The resolution says that the measures should not prevent assistance being given to the legitimate Kuwaiti Government.

Kuwaiti Ambassador to the United Nations Muhammad 'Abd-al-Hasan said at the meeting that Iraq did not intend to withdraw its troops and its statement about a withdrawal was insincere.

In real fact, Iraq is consolidating its presence in Kuwait, forming a so-called popular army which will be used as a screen for the invading troops.

Iraqi Ambassador to the United Nations 'Abd-al-Amir al-Anbari alleged that his government had begun withdrawing troops from Kuwait. He said that the draft resolution on sanctions interfered with the withdrawal and accused the United States of pressuring the Security Council.

However, the Iraqi representative could not persuade council members. American Ambassador to the United Nations Thomas Pickering stressed that Iraqi promises to withdraw troops proved to be just words.

Representatives from Canada, Britain, France, China, Finland, Ethiopia, Romania and some other council members also supported the resolution on sanctions.

Only Cuban and Yemeni representatives doubted the expediency of sanctions. Cuban Ambassdor to the United Nations Ricardo Alarcon said that sanctions would complicate the situation as Iraq began to pull back is troops.

He noted that the international community condemned the Israeli occupation of Arab lands for many years but did not take sanctions because of U.S. opposition. Alarcon compared the present crisis in the Middle East with the U.S. invasion of Panama.

Yemeni chief delegate Abdallah Salih al-Ashtal emphasised that Arab countries should settle this conflict themselves.

"The decision to support the resolution on sanctions was a difficult thing for us, since the resolution affects the entire range of our relation with Iraq which developed over many years," said Soviet first deputy permanent representative to the United Nations Valentin Lozinskiy.

"We value relations with Iraq, but we could not help giving a principled appraisal of what has happened. Neither our principles nor new political thinking permit us to be guided by double standards."

"Although we oppose hasty decisions, we see that the pace of the present developments initiated by the surprise dispatch of Iraqi troops to Kuwait, necessitate the adoption of efficient steps, including those by the Security Council in compliance with the U.N. Charter."

Only the earliest and complete implementation of Iraq's decision to withdraw troops from Kuwait can change the situation, Lozinskiy stressed.

The Security Council, guided by the U.N. Charter, has imposed similar sanctions only twice before, including once against South Rhodesia during the white minority regime.

The sanctions were lifted shortly before the proclamation of the Zimbabwe Republic. The Security Council also imposed sanctions against South Africa on arms supplies to that country.

Moves To Implement Embargo

LD0808082890 Moscow TASS in English 0748 GMT 8 Aug 90

[By TASS correspondent Mikhail Kochetkov]

[Text] United Nations August 8 TASS—UN Secretary-General Javier Perez de Cuellar has sent the text of UN Security Council Resolution 661 on sanctions against Iraq to all 159 international community member-countries. He is to submit a report on the observance of provisions of the resolution, which is obligatory, within 30 days.

Consultations aimed to form a Security Council bureau to supervise the observance of the embargo on trade with Iraq and other measures, envisaged by the resolution, have begun at the United Nations. The sanctions should undermine Iraq's economy, it was noted at the United Nations. Similar sanctions imposed earlier against South Africa and South Rhodesia show that specific trade bans might be avoided.

It was announced at UN Headquarters that Kuwaiti Deputy Prime Minister Sheikh Sabah al-Ahmad al-Jabir al-Sabah, who is also the country's foreign minister, on Tuesday [7 August] sent a message to the UN secretary-general, detailing Iraqi mistreatment of civilians in Kuwait.

The message notes that many people, including other countries' citizens, were arrested in Kuwait City. Those arrested are being sent to Iraq. The minister called on the UN secretary-general to take all necessary steps to end the occupation.

Earlier, the Kuwaiti Government informed the Security Council chairman that Iraqi statements on the beginning of the withdrawal of its forces had not been confirmed.

Photographs submitted by Iraq depict not Iraqi tanks withdrawn from Kuwait, but captured Kuwaiti military equipment moved to Iraq, a message (?by Kuwaiti permament representative at) the United Nations reads.

Gremitskikh Gives News Briefing on 7 Aug

Second UN Resolution

LD0708154690 Moscow TASS in English 1533 GMT 7 Aug 90

[By TASS correspondents Lev Aksyonov, Boris Zverev, and Aleksandr Kanishchev]

[Text] Moscow August 7 TASS—Speaking at a briefing here today, Soviet Foreign Ministry spokesman Yuriy Gremitskikh (?positively) assessed the second resolution adopted by the UNSC [United Nations Security Council] in connection with the Iraqi invasion of Kuwait.

Yuriy Gremitskikh supported this document in its entirety, stressing that "the USSR believes that this important act by the UN Security Council can and should effectively contribute to restoring peace and security in the Persian Gulf area."

Touching on Monday's telephone conversation between Soviet Foreign Minister Eduard Shevardnadze and U.S. Secretary of State James Baker, Gremitskikh noted that "the talk was a follow-up on their discussion in Moscow on August 3." The conversation focused on the situation in the Persian Gulf. The sides exchanged their evaluations of developments in that region.

Asked about a Soviet naval presence in the Persian Gulf area, Gremitskikh said, citing information received at the USSR Navy main headquarters, that a "definite number" of Soviet warships were on patrol in the Indian Ocean. Two ships out of this group—a medium antisubmarine ship and a command ship—are sailing towards the Strait of Hormuz.

Gremitskikh said that in light of the situation in the Persian Gulf area, this was a "usual, normal measure." By and large, the "Soviet side does not intend to reinforce its naval presence in the Persian Gulf," he stressed.

Asked whether the Soviet Union was concerned about the build-up of the U.S. Navy in the Persian Gulf, Gremitskikh noted that it was possibly too early to express official assessments. "Rather it is necessary for the entire world community to step up political measures, with the active involvement of the United Nations as well as Arab regional organisations and all Arab states."

Gremitskikh said that about 900 Soviet citizens were in Kuwait now and some 8,000 in Iraq. "They are mostly representatives of state institutions, technicians and their family members." He could not say whether the Soviet Union had plans to prepare an evacuation of its citizens.

Gremitskikh favoured continued contacts with Iraq, stressing that they should not be weakened but "maintained regularly so that our dialogue with Iraq on resolving this situation be kept going and our arguments in favour of the Iraqi troop withdrawal from Kuwait, restoring peace and security in the region, be directly received by Iraqi counterparts."

Soviet Ships in Indian Ocean

LD0708174590 Moscow International Service in Arabic 1400 GMT 7 Aug 90

[Text] Ladies and gentlemen: The Soviet Union has totally supported the resolution of the United Nations Security Council, imposing economic sanctions against Iraq following the invasion by its forces of Kuwait. Soviet Foreign Ministry spokesman Yuriy Gremitskikh said this at a press conference in Moscow today.

Yuriy Gremitskikh then said that we consider this important step by the UN Security Council as one which could, and should, effectively help in returning peace and stability to the Gulf region.

Gremitskikh added that the Gulf and its neighboring Pacific expanse are among the USSR's fields of interests. However, he rebutted some of the allegations of the Western press that Soviet military vessels had begun to deploy in the Gulf. The Soviet Foreign Ministry spokesman said that a group of Soviet warships is present in the Indian Ocean on a permanent basis in order to carry out patrols on the sealanes through which Soviet merchant vessels and oil tankers pass. These warships have no other purpose. As regards the appearance of one Soviet warship in the Gulf, that is normal and is for rest purposes.

Soviet Foreign Ministry spokesman Gremitskikh also refuted recent allegations by some U.S. newspapers regarding the prospects of coordination between U.S. and Soviet warships near the area of conflict. He said that this type of rumor is devoid of any foundation. As regards the continuing deployment of U.S. warships near the shores of Kuwait and Iraq, the USSR, as Yuriy Gremitskikh said, does not consider a show of muscles in the vicinity of the conflict area as the best means of putting out the fires of this conflict. The Soviet Union prefers political means of settlement, in addition to the two resolutions of the UN Security Council.

The Soviet Foreign Ministry spokesman then answered questions from journalists. He confirmed that a telephone call between the foreign ministers of the USSR and the United States had taken place on the previous day. He described the call as a part of the series of consultations between the representatives of the two countries regarding Iraq's attack on Kuwait, and is desigend to lay down joint effective measures aimed at solving the crisis as soon as possible.

The spokesman for the Soviet Foreign Ministry then spoke about the USSR's reaction to the resolutions of the

Arab summit and the Islamic conference. He expressed satisfaction over the content of these resolutions and pointed to the extraordinary importance of the role of the Arab countries in the joint international efforts for the withdrawal of Iraqi forces from the territories of Kuwait.

Soviet-Bulgarian Ties

LD0708163690 Moscow TASS in English 1622 GMT 7 Aug 90

[Text] Moscow August 7 TASS—A Soviet spokesman described the recent statement by new Bulgarian President Zhelyu Zhelev that the current changes in East Europe, especially in Bulgaria, would have been impossible without democratic changes in the Soviet Union as "important."

Commenting on the Bulgarian president's televised address to the nation, Yuriy Gremitskikh said the Soviet Union welcomed Zhelev's readiness to build interstate relations with the Soviet Union in the spirit of mutual benefit and mutual understanding.

"As for the Soviet Union," Gremitskikh went on to say, "it is ready to continue strengthening the traditional Soviet-Bulgarian friendship and search for new and more effective forms of cooperation between our countries."

The main attention at the briefing was paid to the Iraq-Kuwait conflict. Gremitskikh favoured continued contacts with Iraq, stressing that they should not be weakened but "maintained regularly so that our dialogue with Iraq on resolving this situation be kept going and our arguments in favour of the Iraqi troop withdrawal from Kuwait, restoring peace and security in the region, be directly received by Iraqi counterparts."

Asked about a Soviet naval presence in the Persian Gulf area, Gremitskikh said, citing information received at the USSR Navy main headquarters, that a "definite number" of Soviet warships were on patrol in the Indian Ocean. Two ships out of this group—a medium antisubmarine ship and a command ship—are sailing towards the Strait of Hormuz.

Gremitskikh said that in light of the situation in the Persian Gulf area, this was a "usual, normal measure." By and large, the "Soviet side does not intend to reinforce its naval presence in the Persian Gulf," he stressed.

Moscow is closely following events in Pakistan, Gremitskikh continued.

He said that in the Soviet view these events are the internal affair of Pakistan.

At the same time he expressed hope that the government reshuffle "will not affect democratisation of the social and political life of Pakistani society."

The Soviet side, Gremitskikh said, will continue to support the development of good neighbourliness and cooperation between the USSR and Pakistan.

In connection with the 19th conference of foreign ministers of the Organisation of the Islamic conference, which ended in Cairo on August 5, the Soviet spokesman stressed its important international significance.

At the briefing, journalists were addressed by members of the Tunisian parliamentary delegation, visiting in the USSR at the invitation of the Supreme Soviet. During their stay in the Soviet Union, the delegation met MPs of the Soviet Union, several constituent republics, and representatives of the general public. The visit made it possible to study ways of developing bilateral relations, strengthening ties in the field of politics, economy, and culture.

Members of the delegation described their meetings as fruitful for both sides and expressed conviction that they have a favourable impact on future relations between the two peoples and parliaments.

Asked by journalists about the Iraq-Kuwait conflict, they said that Tunis expresses concern over the aggression. Describing it as an inter-Arab conflict, they favoured Arab countries addressing this issue through political means, without foreign interference.

Situation in Pakistan

LD0708155990 Moscow TASS in English 1320 GMT 7 Aug 90

[By TASS correspondents Lev Aksyonov, Boris Zverev, and Aleksandr Kanishchev]

[Text] Moscow August 7 TASS—Moscow is closely following events in Pakistan, a Foreign Ministry spokesman told a Moscow briefing today.

Yuriy Gremitskikh said that in the Soviet view these events are the internal affair of Pakistan.

At the same time he expressed hope that the government reshuffle "will not affect democratisation of the social and political life of Pakistani society."

The Soviet side, Gremitskikh said, will continue to support the development of good neighbourliness and cooperation of the two countries in the interests of Soviet and Pakistani peoples, the cause of peace and stability, the earliest settlement of acute political problems in south and southwest Asia.

OIC Meeting Results

LD0708145390 Moscow TASS in English 1418 GMT 7 Aug 90

[By TASS correspondents Lev Aksyonov, Boris Zverev and Aleksandr Kanishchev]

[Text] Moscow August 7 TASS—In connection with the 19th conference of foreign ministers of the Organisation of the Islamic Conference (OIC), which ended in Cairo on August 5, Soviet spokesman Yuriy Gremitskikh stressed its important international significance.

Naturally, the work of the conference was affected by the exacerbation of the situation in the Persian Gulf, the spokesman said. He expressed hope that the OIC will contribute to the political settlement of the Iraqi-Kuwaiti conflict.

The USSR, he continued, "appreciates the position of the OIC conference in support of positive changes in the world."

"We share the OIC decision about the need to convene a Middle Eastern international conference, to condemn Israeli repressions on the occupied territories and to support intifadah," Gremitskikh said.

"Considering that the mass immigration on the occupied territories is a gross violation of the 4th Geneva convention," Gremitskikh continued, "the (?USSR) favours joint efforts of the international community, including in the UN framework, in order to put an end to these illegitimate acts and to make Israel abide by the norms of international law."

Grinevskiy Cited on Shape of CSCE Institutions

PM0808085990 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 3 Aug 90 Morning Edition p 5

[Article by correspondent S. Tosunyan: "New Ideas in the Hofburg. Diplomats Propose Creating CSCE Permanent Organs"]

[Text] Vienna—Two different forums are proceeding in Vienna's Hofburg Palace—on conventional armed forces and on confidence- and security-building measures in Europe. The talks on conventional armed forces have long been at the center of attention for representatives of the press, which is not surprising, for disarmament issues are very topical.

However, with the approach of the meeting of heads of the CSCE participant states—it has been decided to hold it in Paris in the second half of November this year—problems of confidence have been brought to the fore. It is impossible to arrange full control over the decisions adopted under conditions when delegations meet only occasionally. And so the idea has emerged that the CSCE process needs permanent institutions. And the question of setting up institutions will evidently be included on the agenda of the summit meeting. The proposals on this problem are to be prepared in Vienna.

At a recent plenary session of the forum on confidence-building measures there was a heated discussion of the idea of creating a CSCE center—the first permanent organ, which would engage in ensuring stability on the continent and preventing and settling conflicts arising between states.

Speaking of the problem of creating this center, special envoy O.A. Grinevskiy, leader of the Soviet delegation at the Vienna talks, emphasized that the discussion of the idea of the center has today entered a qualitatively new phase. In my view, it is already possible to proceed to elaborating the specific substance of the center's activity and its aims and functions.

The idea of creating the center is also being discussed in the preparatory committee of the top-level conference, where this question is regarded as one of the elements of the document of the upcoming Paris meeting.

True, O.A. Grinevskiy continued, we have not yet agreed finally which forum should tackle the practical drafting of the document on the center or its task and organizational structure. Some advocate working out the question in the committee to prepare for the all-European summit meeting. Others believe that the concept and functions of the center must be examined within the framework of the talks on confidence- and security-building measures in Europe.

The Soviet delegation has already expounded its principled approach to this question. In our view, the concept of the center and the parameters of its activity could be as follows: The CSCE center must be a unified efficient mechanism, and specific questions connected, above all, with the CSCE participant states' military security would fall within its competence.

The prevention and settling of conflicts of both a military and a political nature would constitute the first group of questions. The organ to be created could gather, disseminate, and analyze information on crisis situations and on other incidents involving the use of military force. Its task would be to shed light on such situations with a view to preventing a misinterpretation of states' intentions and actions. The center must also promote the settling of conflicts and disputes by means of intermediary functions and other conciliatory procedures.

Finally, annual conferences of experts could be held under the center's auspices on the fulfillment of the agreed confidence- and security-building measures.

The center's organizational structure must meet two demands: It must be economical and as efficient as possible. These are our preliminary views connected with the search for the optimum model of this future CSCE organ. We hope, the Soviet delegation head said in conclusion, that they will be taken into account in the joint elaboration of the decision on the center.

Soviet Delegate at UN Environment Meeting

LD0708225790 Moscow TASS in English 2144 GMT 7 Aug 90

[By TASS correspondent Vladimir Manvelov]

[Text] Nairobi August 8 TASS—Soviet Representative Boris Maiorskiy addressed the first session of the preparatory committee of a United Nations conference on the environment and development here on Tuesday.

The conference is to be held in Brazil in 1992.

The leader of the Soviet delegation said the magnitude and unique nature of the forthcoming forum speak in favour of the need that its decisions intended for a long-term perspective be taken at summit level. In this connection the Soviet representative suggested that the comittee adopt an appropriate recommendation to this effect at the current session.

Touching upon the question of a final document of the forthcoming conference, Maiorskiy emphasised that this should be a comprehensive action plan including universally acceptable approaches to the common goal of ecological revival of the earth. Such a plan should suggest solutions on such major issues as the financing of international nature conservation activities and the exchanges of resource-saving technologies between countries.

The Soviet delegation believes that the conference should adopt a special document generalising principles for the conduct of states in the field of environmental protection—a kind of code of ecological ethics, Maiorskiy said.

The forum could endorse and open for signature international conventions on climate and biological diversity. The forthcoming conference could also adopt a document on the ecological education of the population. Mankind has to pay a particularly high price for gaps in this branch of human knowledge, Maiorskiy said.

A full-value conference is inconceivable without close cooperation with public environmentalist organisations. The Soviet delegation believes that this session should adopt "specific recommendations about inviting public forces to participate in preparing the forthcoming conference, Maiorskiy said. [no closing quote as received]

The Preparatory Committee session, which is being attended by representatives from a majority of UN member nations, will continue until the end of August.

Moiseyev Interviewed on German Unification

LD0708092490 Moscow TASS in English 0903 GMT 7 Aug 90

[By TASS correspondent Oleg Moskovskiy]

[Text] Moscow August 7 TASS—"Under the present circumstancs, the Soviet people are interested in what policy a united Germany will pursue in future," Mikhail Moiseyev, chief of the Soviet Armed Forces General Staff, said in an interview with TASS today.

He said that a powerful NATO army group will remain in Germany after its unification. "Regrettably, NATO doctrines and concepts based on the use of nuclear weapons first have not changed," Moiseyev noted.

In his opinion, political decisions and understandings which predetermine the course of events do not shift responsiblity for the country's defence from the military.

"We should display realism and restraint in all appraisals," Moisyev stressed.

He noted that the that the Soviet Union will withdraw its troops from Germany after a so-called transition period of three to four years.

Moiseyev believes that the USSR's strategic position will be more difficult after this, since a NATO border will run along the Oder River. "It would be premature to say that the military danger for the USSR has disappeared," he concluded.

'Studio Nine' Program Discusses Perestroyka

LD0708201890 Moscow Television Service in Russian 1455 GMT 7 Aug 90

["Studio Nine" program with Army General Mikhail Alekseyevich Moiseyev, first deputy minister of defense and chief of General Staff of the USSR Armed Forces; Doctor of Historical Sciences Boris Demitriyevich Pyadyshev, member of the Collegium of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and editor in chief of MEZHDUNARODNAYA ZHIZN; and Aleksandrovich Lebedev, deputy chief of the Ideology Department of the CPSU Central Committee; presented by Professor Valentin Zorin, Soviet television and radio political observer]

[Text] [Zorin] Hello comrades. Perestroyka and foreign policy: We decided to devote today's talk in "Studio Nine" in Ostankino's television center to this problem. Some time back, this aspect of our perestroyka did not cause any particular arguments. The view predominated that in contrast to the state of affairs within the country, where perestroyka processes, putting it mildly, are proceeding not very smoothly, in the sphere of foreign policy everything was completely successful and fine. However, recently our foreign policy course has also become the subject of sharp disputes. Much here is being subjected to what I would call harsh criticism. This criticism is to be heard both in speeches, in pages of the press, and in letters which come in both to editorial offices and to us in "Studio Nine." We receive such letters. This criticism is also to be heard from tribunes, including lofty ones. Certain aspects of foreign policy were subjected to criticism by individual comrades at Central Committee plenums. At the Russian Communist Party Congress, and at the 28th congress there were criticisms. So I think that today, we have quite a bit to discuss, and to do this in the best qualified way, we have invited to take part in our conversation today competent representatives of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, the Ministry of Defense, and the Ideology Department of the CPSU Central Committee, whom I now want to present to you.

In the studio we have Army General Mikhail Alekseyevich Moiseyev, first deputy minister of defense and chief of the General Staff of the USSR Armed Forces; Doctor of Historical Sciences Boris Dmitriyevich Pyadyshev, member of the collegium of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, editor in chief of the MEZHDUNARODNAYA ZHIZN [INTERNATIONAL LIFE] Journal; and Aleksandr Aleksandrovich Lebedev, deputy chief of the Ideology Department of the CPSU Central Committee—incidentally, he heads the sub section of International Information.

I will start with a letter that was sent to us by senior lecturer Yegorov from Novosibirsk. He writes: I attentively follow reports on Soviet-American talks in Geneva. The fact that it is a matter of disarmament is of course good, but I, and it is not just me, am getting the impression that at these talks we are going for significantly more concessions than the Americans. Will it not turn out that, in order to attain agreement on anything, we will give the Americans military superiority and will place our security under threat? Similar thoughts are expressed in other letters, too. Mikhail Alekseyevich, I want to ask you to answer both Comrade Yegorov and other comrades who are connected over this problem.

[Moiseyev] Valentin Sergeyevich, this question is indeed being widely discussed today. There are two points of view. Some think that today we do not have enemies and that it is necessary to disarm. Others, to the contrary, question whether we are not making too many costly concessions in Geneva and in Vienna, and whether with this, we are not undermining the country's defense. I think that neither viewpoint reflects the real state of affairs today. You see, we are laying the essence of the question, we are proceeding from the understanding first and foremost of the limit of essential sufficiency for defense. What do we have in mind? First, this is what the level of sufficiency for our strategic nuclear forces should be, as the main restraining factor against war. In peace time, we mean that there should be an approximate balance of our and American strategic offensive weapons. And second, what the level of sufficiency for conventional armed forces and weapons should be, such that it would ensure the security and reliability of the country's defense in the event of aggression. Moreover, our position today is such that the talks are being conducted not at any price, but taking into acount the equilibrium and balance of interests of the sides.

Briefly, about reductions in strategic offensive weapons: You know that after the signing of the 50 percent reduction, we will have both the United States and the Soviet Union, 1,600 carriers and 6,000 nuclear charges each. I have to tell you that, yes, perhaps the United States has somewhat more nuclear charges on air-based cruise missiles. We have gone for such a compromise in exchange for an accord on limiting the launch range of this system to 600 km. At the same time, the American side has conceded to us on (?fixing) level-limits on sea-based cruise missiles to 880 units.

Plus, the Americans have gone for retaining our heavy intercontinental ballistic missiles and mobile (?ground) and rail complexes. So that taking into account the compromises, I think that the reductions will be equal in value. As for the Vienna talks, here the questions is somewhat more complex. You know that the treaty is being conducted—and the agreement and the talks that are taking place today in Vienna—they are being conducted on a block basis. In connection with the definite changes that are taking place today in Europe, our allies have gone back on their treaty obligations, which were adopted earlier, on the quota for their arms and equipment, and they have gone for a significant increase in their quota, but at the expense of decreasing the Soviet Union's quota. Undoubtedly this affects the interests of the security of our country, our homeland, and its defense capability—that is, the limit, the level of sufficiency that we are talking about for defense, and we undoubtedly cannot go for this. We are now looking for a solution.

[Zorin] Mikhail Alekseyevich, but did we not agree to these one-sided increases by our friends?

[Moiseyev] Yes, on 1 and 2 June, I held a plenary session of the chiefs of General Staffs of the Main Staff of the Armed Forces of the countries of the Warsaw Pact in the presence of the deputy ministers of foreign affairs where they put forward the new approaches towards increasing the quotas—they were not agreed earlier. They determine this today, because in the situation that is coming into being in Europe today, they must build their armed forces with due consideration for the interests of the security of every country. But we, too, must proceed with due consideration for the security and the interests of our country and of course, we would not want to embark upon a revision.

But what are the prospects that I see? I think that after the signing of the SALT-2 and Vienna agreements, we have to move to Geneva-2 and Vienna-2. This will give considerable advantages for preserving peace in Europe, but already with due consideration for the involvement in the talks of other states which possess nuclear weapons and the technology for the production of these nuclear weapons and certainly for beginning talks on reducing naval forces and tactical nuclear weapons.

[Zorin] If I have understood you correctly, the fears that we might waive our country's security interests for the sake of an agreement at any price are groundless.

[Moiseyev] Yes, our people can rest assured of that.

[Zorin] But accusations are made that our diplomacy is operating in an excessively independent way and in particular, that it is doing so without coordinating its positions with the Ministry of Defense. Is there any foundation to accusations of that kind?

[Pyadyshev] Allegations and statements of that kind, you know, have a very, very naive ring to them—naive and, I would say, distressing, too. Foreign policy is not the exclusive domain of diplomacy. Foreign policy means first and foremost the country's top leadership, the president of the Soviet Union, the parliament, the government. It means the Ministry of Defense, the KGB, and so on and so forth—all those who are directly involved in international affairs. And I can say with absolute certainty and with complete foundation that not one single foreign policy decision of the Soviet Union is made without close interaction between the USSR Ministry of Foreign Affairs, the Ministry of Defense, the KGB, the military and industrial complex, and our other departments and agencies. It could not be otherwise.

[Zorin] Thank you. I would like to note that these days, we pronounce quite calmly the words military and industrial complex without the minus sign that once accompanied it: It used to be simply a term of abuse, but now here is a representative of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs saying that they coordinate things with the military and industrial complex. Something new already. Mikhail Alekseyevich, in the first place, do you agree with what Boris Dmitriyevich has said, and secondly, does the Ministry of Defense participate—and this is also of interest to many of us—does it participate in the decisions made by the leadership on international issues?

[Moiseyev] Yes, there is one subtle point here: The Ministry of Defense does not make political decisions itself. That is the prerogative of the top bodies of state power, and on this I agree with Boris Dmitriyevich. At the same time, we participate actively in the preparation of proposals and appropriate grounds upon which decisions can be made. And what Boris Dmitriyevich said—when decisions are made, we have some heated discussions, we have arguments, there are compromises, but we find solutions that are acceptable, coordinated solutions, as a result of which our political leadership uses them. The specific nature of our work today is as follows: It boils down to the fact that today, the Ministry of Defense performs, one might say, two functions that are characteristic of it—the security of the country has to be ensured, and with due regard for the new conditions that are coming into being in the world, issues of disarmament have to be resolved. Isn't that right?

[Zorin] Yes.

[Moiseyev] And at the same time, we have to be confident that—and this is the main thing—that our people have to be confident that the country's security is not suffering. And I will say that here we are finding sound compromises and sound solutions. What do I see as essential for us for the solution of these tasks? That we change altogether our idea of the essence of security. Furthermore, that we restructure our views and look differently at a whole range of problems that are linked with the country's defense. Ultilmately, no doubt, the main thing is that responsibility for the country's security will be placed first and foremost upon the Ministry of Defense. But overall, I would like to observe that the proper attention is being given to our proposals and our well-founded problems and they are meeting with understanding when political decisions are being made.

[Pyadyshev] So that the picture isn't too rosy, Mikhail Alekseyevich quite rightly said that decisions are made in a common group, so to speak, in a common team, but decisions are certainly not made without any arguments and without any contradictions.

[Zorin] A normal, working process.

[Pyadyshev] Without revealing any great secrets, I could give the following instance from the past. In the 1960's and 1970's on secveral occasions it was suggested to Andrey Andreyevich Gromyko, the then minister of foreign affairs, that a special Disarmament Department be set up in the Ministry of Foreign Affairs. And each time Andrey Andreyevich turned it down, he turned down the proposal, because he considered that disarmament was not the province, was not the prerogative, so to speak, of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs. Disarmament had to be handled by the Ministry of Defense. Now the powerful directorate has been set up in the Ministry of Foreign Affairs on arms limitation and that directorate operates in very close contact with the General Staff.

[Moiseyev] I could only add that our working group is working in the General Staff.

[Zoriln] I see, thank you. Another problem on which concern and criticism is voiced towards the Soviet leadership is the processes taking place in East Europe. In particular, statements can be heard that our policies have led to the collapse of the socialist camp, the similar formulations are used. Aleksandr Aleksandrovich, what could you say in this regard?

[Lebedev] I think that we are now actually encroaching on quite a delicate sphere, where everything is very densely mixed and closely connected—ideology, politics, and the military strategic aspects. You used the term, collapse of the socialist camp. By force of inertia this term camp, still figures among our people, let's say, both at the level of the man in the street and at the professional level, too. The camp began to collapse—I won't even argue with you over the second term, collapse—began to collapse, as is well known, long before perestroyka, precisely because, from my point of view, it was created by Stalin with all the signs of a camp, and I don't mean a poineers' camp. And in this regard, it is no accident that in 1948, Yugoslavia left this camp. Later Albania left, say. Well, then, still later, at the beginning of the 1960's China, although we are now, by and large, talking about East Europe. But in other cases, these attempts, not so much to leave the camp but to assert their independence within the framework, at that time still, perhaps, even, of some notion of a community, they took the form, alas of very dramatic events, this is a mild definition, of course: in 1956 in Hungary, in 1968 in Czechoslovakia. All of this occurred, I would like to stress, addressing my words to those critics who, perhaps, have the patience at this moment to listen to us, and who say that perestroyka led to the collapse of the socialist community. It wasn't perestroyka, but the objective development of events in the relevant countries, and moreover unevenly, because what is happening in Bulgaria and Romania is not quite like what is happening in Czechoslovakia, say, or in Hungary or Poland, although there are, of course, certain common things here, too. I think that many in our country—apart from those who took as their premise purely black and white Stalinist concepts that our worn regimes or regimes favorable to us had to be established in these countries at any price—were people who were sincerely misled, who thought that in a certain international situation helping, even with the aid of military suport or military force, helping a minority party come to power in a certain country is one with the calculation that this party, possessing the fullness of state power and its own wise policies, could gradually win over the majority of the population, the majority of society. Alas, this did not occur as a rule, it didn't occur in Czechoslovakia after 1968, when the people who came to power revelled in power instead of thinking of the feelings of the majority. And all of this again and again created the critical condition which, objectively, had to take the form of another crisis sooner or later. I fear that I shall use the hackneyed phrase of Talleyrand—you know that he was the author of very many eloquent expressions—that you can lean on a bayonet, but it is uncomfortable to sit on it for long time; I have paraphrased him slightly, but that is where the point lies. Indeed, it is unthinkable to make people happy with bayonets, or with tanks. And here the question arises on which we are criticized in our country; we are criticized, I have in mind state organs, and ideologists, and also the leadership of the army. I think, in this sense we are in a similar position, they criticize us most of all. We are, I think, the main object of criticism, although, it is true, with the one distinction that we ideologists, Mikhail Alekseyevich, are also criticized by certain military officers, while we, so to speak, spare you.

[Moiseyev] Probably there is something to criticize.

[Lebedev] I shall, perhaps, return to this, if Valentin Sergeyevich will permit me. I am, certainly, inclined toward self-criticism, and to accepting criticism, but as regards making others happy by force, this hasn't worked out, it isn't working out, and we have to learn lessons from this. Not everyone in our country, alas, is inclined to do this. They think that it was, after all, possible to stop all of these processes, and that it was only necessary to apply certain administrative measures. And moreover, this is what is typical: They refer to the views of certain comrades, so to speak, internationalists, so called healthy forces—in our country certain former members of the Politburo also used to be fond of this term—that if only we helped these healthy forces, everything would be okay. In the first place, according to the observations of people who are not even professionals, but who have been to these countries of East Europe regularly in the recent period, in recent years, it was already becoming clear that this whole euphoric picture of external prosperity that was created by the leadership and by a certain level of party officials there, communist and workers parties, did not correspond to reality at all, that antipathy to us was growing, disdain, incidentally, contempt for our—forgive me—poverty, for our lack of culture all over the place, this is what was developing, and all of this was building up, and of course, accordingly, made itself felt. So the question arises here: Why did we give up without a fight? Why did we rush? We receive such letters, and such accusations can also be heard from high-level rostrums, as you have correctly said, including the 28th congress.

[Lebedev] Was it worth rushing like this with these talks about withdrawal? Well, what sort of a formulation of the issue is this? I of course, completely rule out, Mikhail Alekseyevich, I rule out the possibility that some of our officers are itching to have a fight in Europe. In my view, this is an absurdity.

But nevertheless, when something is said on this topic, of course both the officers and moreover the politicians and ideologists have to choose their words. And what does it mean not to rush? If the governments of Hungary or Czechoslovakia, say, specifically insist on the withdrawal of these troops being speeded up, a most acute social problem arises for the officers. All this has to be resolved first and foremost in our country, of course. Resources are lacking for this. This is all clear. So, what is the way out? To sweep away these governments? Strictly speaking, this is the only, the only logical—in quotes—alternative.

We have already discussed this topic and we know that even if this were physically possible, the results, either in international, bilateral, or in our domestic terms would be nothing other than counterproductive. And consequently, we are withdrawing. But why dramatize in this way... I would like to stress the importance of this withdrawal in ideological and military-political terms. After all, by withdrawing from these countries now, we are, not creating... [Lebedev changes thought] or we should not proceed from the position that states somehow hostile towards us are taking shape. Some people say that they will emerge because the regimes are not communist, or are anticommunist and right-wing in some cases, and so forth. But I do not think that they will take shape—provided only that we ourselves of course don't do anything stupid.

And there are pretty convincing examples that it is quite unnecessary to dramatize. We have very good relations with Finland, Yugoslavia, Austria, which, so to speak, have developed independently of, or even after the withdrawal of our armed forces.

I have some further ideas here, but I think...

[Pyadyshev, interrupting] I would like to comment—as far as my knowledge permits—to say that a most acute crisis of the socialist community in East Europe started at the end of the 1970s. This socialist community no longer worked politically. Economic cooperation was very ineffective. The CEMA was practically paralyzed. That's the first thing.

And the second thing, I would like to add to everything that Aleksandr Aleksandrovich has just said. Yes, we bear responsibility for what happened and what is happening now in the countries of East Europe. But it is not necessary to take 100 percent of the responsibility upon ourselves alone. Responsibility for the collapse of things is also borne by these countries and the leaderships of these countries.

Again, relying on my own knowledge of affairs, I could say that from the second half of the 1970s these countries were practically independent in their political, economic, and other actions...

[Zorin] Especially in domestic terms...

[Pyadyshev] Our supervision of them was purely symbolic. They developed all their own activities absolutely independently. So what has happened there now is also the result of the policy of the leaderships of these countries.

[Zorin] Thank you, I think that this is a topic which we will return to on more than one occasion. But now, time is implacable, and I want to touch on a few other sore issues on which criticism is expressed, and in particular—it goes without saying that we can not say today—and dwell today on the German problem. The view is expressed—the view is quite widespread in our society—that by renouncing the rights of the victor in connection with the unification of Germany, we are acting to the detriment of our country's security. Well, I think that we should discuss this. Boris Dmitriyevich, let's start with you. What can you say on this score?

[Pyadyshev] What we today call the German question is, of course, the most painful, most acute international issue for the Soviet people. It is enough, say, like sparking off gunpowder, to say that we laid down 20 million Soviet people during World War II for the sake of ensuring our security. It is enough to voice such words and instantly emotions flare up. But it is necessary to proceed not only for emotions—of course they are unavoidable here—it is necessary to proceed from the real state of affairs in present-day Europe, and in Germany in particular.

The processes that are developing in Europe and in Germany are not developing in the conditional sense. We cannot build a policy here proceeding from the prerequisite of what would have been if only. Here we have a European and German reality which consists in there being a mighty powerful Federal Republic of Germany, and for the present, there is still a GDR, the absolute majority of whose population would enthusiastically like to join a large, united Germany. That is the reality.

Powerful processes are now taking place in Europe. The political landmarks for ten or more years ahead are being set out. And if we do not join these processes, including in the regulation of the external aspects of German unity, we risk remaining on the periphery. And we were right to join in these talks and these processes. We cannot determine the fate of a future united Germany. We cannot today determine which bloc a unite Germany will join. This, in fact, is a matter for a united Germany. And as Kohl said quite clearly, a united Germany will enter NATO. This a matter for the Germans.

But we can today determine the terms on which the resolution of the external aspects of German unity will be effected. And our diplomacy and our foreign policy as a whole is working actively and energetically on defining these terms. And it is absolutely incorrect to state that we are here in some way giving up our positions. No. A very acute and intensive process of talks is under way, as a result of which the positions of the four great powers and the two German states are being compared and correlated. And I could say that in the process of these talks, in the process of contacts between our leadership and Western leaders, we have been able to achieve a great deal in the sense of consolidating our interests, our demands, and our positions.

Above all, it is now possible to say with some certainty that our wishes that we should have a non aggression pact with Germany, that all-around cooperation should be developed between ourselves and a future great Germany; that certain limitations should be imposed on the numerical strength of the Armed Forces of a great Germany and that the numerical strength should be much less than the current Bundeswehr, that there should be no nuclear or chemical weapons on German territory and so on and so forth, will be taken into account in a future document of international law which will resolve the issue of a united Germany.

[Zorin] Well, the diplomat's viewpoint is clear. What is the view of the General Staff, Mikhail Alekseyevich....

[Moiseyevich] Valentin Sergeyevich, it is, of course, today still not possible to provide an unequivocal reply to this acute question. Today, it is certainly not a matter of indifference for us, military people, and for our people, what course the united Germany will actually adhere to. This is where the question lies. Whether it enters, as has been said, the fact that it will enter the NATO bloc is a question that has been resolved. It is a matter of time. Afterwards, in December, after the unification, not much time is left. The more so as the structures of the armed forces of the unified Germany are currently already being developed—what should be stationed on the territory of the FRG, and what Armed Forces should be on the territory of the present GDR—their structure. And taking accout of the fact that today, on German territory, a mighty grouping of armed forces is deployed, and in Europe in general, which are united by the NATO alliance bloc, we certainly cannot fail to take account of this today. After all, the doctrines and concept of this bloc are still intact, quite apart from the grouping, the trend towards first use of nuclear weapons is also still intact. For us the military danger, I would like to stress, today, has not disappeared. New factors have emerged. As a result of the statement, and the decision, that over a period of three to four years we will have to withdraw our troops in the western group of forces, from the territory of the GDR, the question arises today of the creation of groupings of our armed forces actually on the territory of the Soviet Union, directly within our national borders. So the military aspects are being seen in the entirely different way, including those which our opponents are examining for the use of nuclear weapons, tactical nuclear weapons. Unfortunately, not everyone in our society today is objectively assessing the situation that is arising. Some people are saying that we can already disarm unilaterally now, as I said in the first question, but I have to refer to the words of the president, said at the ceremony for the launching iof a new atomic aircraft carrier, the George Washington, where he says that we have not yet entered the era of eternal peace; American might remains the force in the world that has the most paramount significance for ensuring freedom. So, while thinking about peace, we have to prepare our armed forces, and prepare our people to defend the values that you and I hold.

[Lebedev] Mikhail Alekseyevich, your position, of course, as a military man, personally responsible for defense in your capacity as chief of the General Staff, for the defense of the Soviet Union, is entirely logical and your concern is understandable, but it seems to me that both the military and the politicians, and even those who are, in my view, rather generally called ideologists, should also not fail to see other things that are currently developing. You mentioned in passing the London statement by NATO. Well, you see, it does also deserve—perhaps we don't have time for this at present—but more serious and more positive analysis, I would say. Of course, this is a declaration of intentions, but previously no one stated even such declarations or such intentions. This is already the result, so to speak, of our political actions, this improvement. Also, you quoted the U.S. President. But there are currently very many other interesting statements. Say, our consent to the entry of a united Germany to NATO. It is assessed by very many observers, very serious observers who are critically inclined towards us, as this: Gorbachev has obtained a new freedom of political maneuvers for influencing European politics, and—excuse me, Valentin Sergeyevich, your good friend Henry Kissinger, a participant of "Studio Nine" if I am not mistaken—he quite recently wrote to THE WASHINGTON POST, simply with alarm, with concern, that NATO is thus essentially losing its military meaning, and that NATO, the military structure, could easily be suppressed—in the long term, of course, not immediately—suppressed by the structures being set up by the Helsinki process, the CSCE, and that before it is too late, the United States and her allies should develop a new strategy. I am not trying to say that we should give in to complacent illusions, or that we should take words on trust. Of course not. But nevertheless, it seems to me that all of this has to be analyzed, and it is desirable for us to do so, integrally, balancing it with our actions.

[Moiseyev] Aleksandr Aleksandrovich, you are perfectly correct. If we had not taken account of this, not analyzed it, certainly neither our government nor the military leadership would have embarked unilaterally on cutting their armed forces by 500,000 men. And we are now working on a profound military reform, for we are placing the reductions in our armed forces within those same reasonable limits for that same reasonable sufficiency for defense.

[Pyadyshev] I would note that we civilians would have strong cause for complaint against our military leadership if the military leadership did not do the maximum to ensure our security and maintain the armed forces at the essential level.

[Zorin] Mikhail Alekseyevich, I would like to put perhaps, rather a direct question to you, but I suspect that it could occur to those who are listening to us. From the point of view of the leadership of our armed forces: Did the Soviet Government have any other way regarding the question of the unification of Germany, other than that which we took?

[Moiseyev] Yes, the question is not a simple one. Of course, I shall say frankly that we had worked out several options: the timescale of unification, and then, we examined whether the unified Germany should enter the NATO bloc or not; what does it give for the bloc, and what does it give for the Warsaw Pact; how is the strategic situation in Europe and the correlation of forces altered? Of course. But probably, the main thing here was the processes that are occurring in Europe, and the situation, and it is probably impossible not to take account of this today. For this is the main thing, if we can see today that we should not prevent the unification of two peoples, this will be a united state. It is another matter that war should never stem from the territory of this state. And how shall we—our political leaders and our diplomats, and our ideologists, and military leaders—how shall we exist from now on in Europe, within what framework? Whether the NATO bloc remains in the structure in which it is today, and whether it gradually transforms itself, like the Warsaw Pact, into a political system—this is a different correlation, is it not? And a different approach. And furthermore: Certainly, what our vision will be in the long term of our interrelations, and the status of the states of a unified Germany and of the Soviet Union. Certainly, a foundation has to be laid on the basis of a treaty between the two states, which ensures the security not only of our people, but in general of the countries of Europe, which also do not take an unequivocal attitude toward the question of the unification of Germany today.

[Zorin] I see. I want to pose this question. What has been said today at this table sounds sufficiently convincing.

although to put it bluntly, there have been shades of opinion expressed. All the same, clearly we concur that the majority of outright critical observations which are addressed to the foreign policy course are in general insufficiently well grounded, I would say. But nevertheless....

[Lebedev] Not even very professional or competent.

[Zorin] Yes, all right. But nevertheless, Aleksandr Aleksandrovich, whereas some time ago there was no such criticism, now it has appeared, this means that it may be assumed that there is also some objective basis for it.

[Lebedev] Well from my point of view, there undoubtedly is. The apparatchiks are cursed for everything these days, but here there is cause to curse them, especially in the period when indeed, let us say, in our department, the subdepartment of international information, tried in some way to coordinate this work on informing, on explaining many of our foriegn policy actions and not only ours. Unfortunately, we did not succeed in getting the right information out in good time or in preparing public opinion for unexpected about-turns, unexpected for an ordinary person, not for a professional. Second, we are frequently not doing it very convincingly after the fact, either That is one aspect—self-criticism. The second objective, perhaps even more objective—I was speaking more about subjective reasons—more objective reasons lie in the fact that we ourselves engendered a whole series of stereotypes, stereotypes of thinking which live alongside and simultaneous with our declared philosophy of new political thinking. And one cannot fail to take this into account, because, well, what is the value of, for example, a statement at the Congress—I don't want to get involved in a lengthy polemic—to the effect that my borders, say, end at the borders of Novosibirsk Oblast, and so the whole of the common European home has nothing to do with me. Well, maybe I am exaggerating a bit, but the sense of the declaration was like that. In the Middle Ages even people understood, and incidentally not far from Altay—and this is where the speaker came from as far as I know—in the Middle Ages, there lay the Great Silk Road which joined Europe and Asia both economically and culturally. Even then, people understood that borders are no safeguard against many misfortunes, no safeguard against plague, and apart from that, contacts are enriching. Your own prosperity depends on the prosperity of people living in Europe and on the other end of Asia, and so forth.

And we have lived for many decades in a situation of—I do not want to get into the question of who started the cold war—objectively in a situation of a besieged fortress: danger on all sides, threats on all sides, with the internal enemy on top of it. And, of course, this made a colossal imprint on the mass psychology and so the comrade whom I mentioned anonymously is not even guilty. It was not his fault but his misfortune, our common misfortune. One could quote a whole series of other examples. For example, there are critical noises being addressed to the apparatus, in particlar and to the Central Committee, now saying how can you abandon friends in need. Well, we have not abandoned anyone to the whims of fate. It is simply that everyone must indeed determine his own fate himself and solve his internal affairs himself. And as for, say, persecution, discrimination, harrassment to which communists and other left wing forces in the countries of East Europe were subjected—and incidentally the congress expressed itself in no uncertain terms on this matter, and there are dozens of ways of helping those people who are in need, far mor effectively without raising it to the level of high state policy and diplomacy, and at the same time acting absolutely without interference in internal affairs correspondingly—and indeed these friends of ours also differ. Sometimes they urge us on toward some things—let's be blunt—but in no way do they want to be associated with us and with our—God forbid—direct military support. So this theme is also multilayered and complex. But of course, it seems to me that there is yet another circumstance that I would like to mention. There is no policy and no diplomacy, in my view, which is irreproachable. And of course here there can be some temporary failures, some miscalculations, some clumsiness which may arise, but it is important to see the arterial line, so to speak, and the result. It seems to me that final results in foreign policy and diplomacy—and foreign policy, Boris Dmitriyevich, is a conglomerate of common efforts, is it not—must be determined by what sort of direct hit is made, be it Germany and the Arkhyz talks or Vienna, to use military language, when by a general diplomatic maneuver it proves possible without using missiles to hit the target with a minimum deviation from it, so to speak, and with the appropriate result.

[Zorin] Well, our time has come to a close. I think that we have given answers to some of the questions, but we will, of course, continue this conversation and in general the fact that foreign policy has ceased to be a zone of purely complements, Boris Dmitriyevich, I think is not viewed as a tragedy on Smolensk Square. In a democratic society, criticism is a normal thing, including, and I think rightly, in foreign policy by our public. But there is a common denominator to be able to draw a fundamental conclusion, despite the many, perhaps justified, doubts and observations. Let us recall the atmosphere that existed five or six years ago, when the world was very quickly sliding towards an extremely dangerous line. Let us compare that with the situation today when some of our comrades have already run to the other extreme and consider that the military threat has simply disappeared. This is not justified, but there is a fundamentally new situation and it has not come about of its own accord, but primarily as a result of the constructive policy of the Soviet Union and the new thinking, and we shall receive a reply to the question as to whether the foreign policy of the Soviet Union in those years has been successful or unsuccessful. I want to end our talk here today on this and to thank you for taking part in it, to thank our viewers for watching. Until our next meeting in "Studio Nine," thank you.

Rogachev, Swedish Deputy Discuss Cambodia

LD0608074190 Moscow TASS in English 1733 GMT 6 Aug 90

[Text] Moscow August 6 TASS—Soviet Deputy Foreign Minister Igor Rogachev met Swedish parliamentary deputy and public figure Hans Goeran Franck here today to discuss a peace settlement in Cambodia in the light of the latest agreements, including those reached at the Soviet-American meeting in Irkutsk.

Franck is known for proposing to convene an international conference for a political settlement in Cambodia.

South Korean-Turkish Trade Agreement Reviewed

SK0708035790 Moscow International Service in Korean 0900 GMT 3 Aug 90

[Text] South Korean media continue to comment on their Prime Minister Kang Yong-hun's visit to Turkey.

For example, the visit has been described as one which has provided a new impetus in the Turkish-South Korean relations and particular attention has been directed to the agreement which would vitalize trade and contacts in the economic fields of the two countries.

According to YONHAP, what takes an important place in the agreement is the agreement to pool the strength of South Korea and Turkey in implementing some projects in the Soviet Union.

Such an agreement is not accidental. Due to some political reasons and due to confrontation (?under the cold-war system), Turkey and particularly South Korea, it can be said, were behind in developing economic cooperation with the Soviet Union.

Thus, today, the two countries are trying to make it up.

At the talks held in Ankara, the two sides reached a conclusion that a joint-venture would be better in certain projects.

In recent years, Turkey has earned good experience in its cooperation with the Soviet Union, particularly in carrying out contract construction projects.

At present, Turkey is carrying out construction projects worth $500 million in the Soviet Union. According to contracts, (?a hotel), (?a hospital), and light industrial and food processing plants are under construction.

The quality of work is very high and the Soviet contractors are satisfied. Cooperation can continue. However, added investment is necessary.

Taking all things into consideration, South Korea appears to be willing to make that investment. At the same time, the country can provide modern process, ultra high-class facilities, and blueprints for the structures to be built.

As for the conditions in the Soviet Union, there are adequate conditions. The economic reform toward the outside provides prerequisites for foreign investment and encourages the establishment of joint-venture plants. Today, there are already nearly 2,000 joint-venture plants in the Soviet Union.

If we take a look at the political field, the Soviet-Turkish relations have successfully developed in recent years.

The Soviet relations with South Korea are also being established. For example, a delegation from that country is presently visiting Moscow and the purpose of the talks being held during the visit is to realize reciprocal contacts and for making preparations to establish diplomatic relations.

Late this year or early next year, high-level government visits may mutually take place. Thus, economic process and political process are going hand in hand.

The Soviet Union is interested in seeking reciprocal and stable economic relations with its neighbors. In this regard, economic cooperation and trade are an important integral part of political relations. In this respect, the aforementioned South Korean-Turkish agreement undoubtedly attracts attention.

United States & Canada

Baker, Shevardnadze Explain Persian Gulf Moves

PM0708113790 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 5 Aug 90 Morning Edition pp 1, 4

[Report by IZVESTIYA diplomatic correspondent M. Yusin: "Emergency Meeting at Vnukovo Airport. E.A. Shevardnadze and J. Baker Issue Joint Statement on Kuwait"]

[Text] An emergency meeting between USSR Foreign Minister E.A. Shevardnadze and U.S. Secretary of State J. Baker was held at the Vnukovo-II government airport on the evening of 3 August.

We recall that, in connection with Iraq's aggression against Kuwait, the secretary of state cut short his visit to Mongolia by two days. He arrived in Moscow at approximately 2000 hours—that is, almost two hours late because his U.S. aircraft developed a puncture in its undercarriage during its stopover at Irkutsk Airport.

The Vnukovo meeting lasted more than an hour. After it ended a joint news conference was held. Shevardnadze spoke first. "Today's meeting is rather unusual," the minister said. "It concerns events which have seriously alarmed the entire world. I refer to the invasion of Kuwait. In Irkutsk (before the armed conflict started—M.Yu.) the secretary of state and I discussed the prevailing situation. I will reveal a secret: The secretary of state expressed serious misgivings about Iraq's troop buildup on the Kuwaiti border. I will be frank, at the time I virtually ruled out further complications. I did not expect that the Iraqis would entertain open aggression against a defenseless peace-loving country. A country which did not and does not threaten anyone. The secretary of state and I agreed that if the situation deteriorated we would meet again and consult."

The minister said that, as is well known, the Soviet Government has already decided to halt military shipments to Iraq. "It was very difficult for us to take this step," Shevardnadze noted, "since we have had good relations with Iraq for decades." However, as the minister put it, by invading Kuwait Iraq has flouted the principles of civilized relations between states, and the Soviet Union could not react in any other way.

Baker then spoke. "I agree with Mr. Shevardnadze's assessment of the tragic situation in the Near East," he said. "I said at a news conference in Mongolia that Iraq had committed a pirate-like action that runs counter to the norms of civilized behavior. It is quite natural that today both the United States and the USSR have similar views of the situation." This, in the secretary of state's opinion, is further proof of the positive changes in Soviet-U.S. relations. In years gone by, Baker noted, the USSR and the United States would most likely have reacted differently to the events in the Persian Gulf. They would have viewed them in the light of East-West relations. "Now we no longer look at the world this way," the secretary of state stressed. "Mr. Shevardnadze has just said that it was hard for the Soviet Union to adopt the joint statement and to decide to halt military shipments, bearing in mind its relations with Iraq. We are well aware of this and we highly value the steps taken by the USSR."

Many journalists drew attention to this point in their commentaries. Indeed, once the aggression began, the Soviet Union was in a more delicate position than the United States. There was no getting away from the sad fact that Kuwait had been captured with our weapons. Without considering the consequences, we had created a military giant by annually selling it millions of dollars worth of armaments. As a result, Baghdad has turned into the main destabilizing force in the region. But these are past mistakes in our foreign policy. We can only regret the past; we cannot alter it. The main thing today is to draw a line under past shortcomings, thereby rehabilitating ourselves in the eyes of the world community. This is what the Soviet Union has done following the Iraqi aggression. The adoption of the Soviet-U.S. joint statement—an unprecedented event in the history of regional conflicts—is further confirmation of this.

After giving brief speeches, the ministers read out the text of the statement:

"The USSR and the United States, as members of the UN Security Council, consider it important that the Council immediately and resolutely condemn the flagrant, illegal invasion of Kuwait by the Armed Forces of Iraq. The United States and the USSR believe that it is now of fundamental importance that the Security Council resolution be fully and immediately implemented.

"Iraq's action runs counter to the fundamental principles of the UN Charter and international law. In response to this patent violation of the basic norms of civilized behavior, the United States and the USSR have independently taken a number of steps. In particular, the Soviet Union has suspended weapons shipments and the United States has frozen bank assets.

"The USSR and the United States reaffirm their appeal to Iraq to unconditionally withdraw its troops from Kuwait. The sovereignty, national independence, lawful authority, and territorial integrity of the Kuwaiti state should be fully restored and safeguarded.

"The United States and the USSR believe that the world community should not only condemn this action but should take practical steps to respond to it. Today the USSR and the United States are taking the unusual step of jointly calling on the entire international community to join them in suspending all weapons shipments to Iraq on an international scale.

"The USSR and the United States are also calling on regional organizations—above all, the Arab League, all Arab states, the Nonaligned Movement, and the Islamic

Conference Organization—to take all possible steps to carry out the UN Security Council resolution.

"Governments resorting to flagrant aggression should know that the international community cannot and will not tolerate or promote aggression."

Having familiarized journalists with the declaration, the ministers stated their readiness to answer questions. As previously arranged, the first to take the microphone was a correspondent from Kuwait's KUNA news agency. He asked what specific steps the United States and USSR had taken to counter Iraq and whether Moscow had been in direct contact with Baghdad.

Shevardnadze replied that the adopted statement mentioned specific actions taken by the two countries with respect to the aggressor. One of the main avenues is joint work within the UN Security Council. "One resolution has already been adopted. If it is not implemented, a question will be placed on the agenda about another resolution to have a basis for taking appropriate measures," the minister said.

Talking about direct contact with Baghdad, he noted that the USSR is maintaining such contact and is not planning to end it. The Soviet leadership sent Iraqi President Saddam Husayn a special message on 2 August. A reply has still not been received. Moreover, Soviet diplomats have had contact at various levels with Iraqi representatives and have received assurances that Baghdad will soon withdraw its troops from Kuwait.

Listing the steps taken by the USSR and the United States, the secretary of state highlighted one of the provisions of the adopted statement—the appeal to all countries to join with the decision by Moscow and Washington to suspend weapons shipments to Iraq.

The journalists inquired what additional economic, political, and perhaps military measures the USSR and the United States plan to take if the steps already mentioned fail to influence Iraq.

"The minister and I agreed that we will keep in close contact as the situation develops," the secretary of state said. "As for our future steps, I would consider it inexpedient to rule out any option at this time." Baker "would not want to discuss" possible military action, since he "sees no benefit" in so doing.

Shevardnadze then spoke. "I still hope," he said, "that the Iraqi leadership will have enough boldness, resolve, and political wisdom to save its people and the world community from this unpleasant situation. If this does not happen, we will act according to the situation." The minister said that the USSR has no plans for military operations. "As far as I am aware," he added, "the United States has none either."

To a question on whether the United States and the Soviet Union had appealed to China (one of the main weapons suppliers to Iraq, along with the USSR and France) to join the embargo, Shevardnadze replied that there had been no such contact as yet.

One other question of interest to the journalists was: How many Soviet and U.S. citizens are currently in Iraq and Kuwait? Shevardnadze said that the Soviet community numbers 900 people in Kuwait and around 7,000-8,000 in Iraq. According to Baker, there are 3,800 Americans in Kuwait; he could not give an accurate figure on the number in Iraq. Both ministers stated that, in the event that guarantees are not given for the security of Soviet and U.S. citizens in Kuwait, the consequences would be very serious.

At the end of the press conference, Baker and Shevardnadze had another brief conversation, after which the secretary of state's aircraft left for the United States. The journalists remaining at the airport spent a long time exchanging opinions about the talks. Many of them made the following comment: The USSR and the United States have acted as allies in the international arena for the first time since World War II.

PRAVDA Reports Baker's Mongolian Visit

PM0708094190 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 3 Aug 90 Second Edition p 4

[TASS report: "Secretary of State's Visit"]

[Text] Ulaanbaatar 2 Aug—U.S. Secretary of State J. Baker arrived here today on an official friendly visit at the invitation of the Mongolian Government. This is the first visit to Mongolia by such a high-ranking representative of the U.S. Administration.

J. Baker met with P. Ochirbat, chairman of the Mongolian Great People's Hural Presidium; Sh. Gungaadorj, chairman of the Mongolian Council of Ministers; and Ts. Gombosuren, Mongolian foreign minister.

As the MONTSAME agency reports, the Mongolian leaders informed J. Baker about the process of renewal in Mongolia, the current state of the national economy, plans for transferring it to market relations, and practical steps to form a democratic rule-of-law state.

The U.S. secretary of state expressed satisfaction at the successful development of perestroyka and democratization in Mongolia. He referred to the recent elections to people's hurals at all levels as a convincing example of this. On the subject of the economic aspect of bilateral talks, J. Baker stated that together with Mongolia's neighbors—the Soviet Union and China—the United States is prepared to become the third great power with whom Mongolia can cooperate fruitfully.

A consular convention and an agreement on intergovernmental cooperation between Mongolia and the United States along the U.S. "Peace Corps" lines were signed today, and a trade agreement between the two countries was initialed.

Belenogov, U.S. Envoy Discuss Gulf Situation

LD0708121190 Moscow TASS in English 1203 GMT 7 Aug 90

[Text] Moscow August 7 TASS—Soviet Deputy Foreign Minister Aleksandr Belonogov today met U.S. Ambassador to the Soviet Union Jack Matlock at his request.

They discussed the situation in the Persian Gulf following Iraq's invasion of Kuwait.

Godmanis Reports on White House Talks With Bush

LD0608202390 Riga Domestic Service in Latvian 1730 GMT 31 Jul 90

[Text] Here is a review of the final part of the visit by the Latvian government's representatives in the United States.

On Monday at the White House, U.S. President George Bush received the chairman of the Latvian Council of Ministers, and the republic's Foreign Minister Janis Jurkans, who are there on a private visit. As Godmanis told journalists later, during the talks there was an exchange of ideas about the situation in the Baltic republics. He noted that the aim of the Latvian government's policy is to assure a peaceful and gradual transition to an independent market economy and political sovereignty. We wish to fully restore our independence, Godmanis pointed out, adding that the gaining of independence will be a gradual process because it will require a certain amount of time. Meeting with President Bush, Godmanis expressed the desire that the U.S. government establish its information center in Riga, offer economic assistance to the private sector in Latvia, promote U.S. capital investment in Latvia, and support the universities, offering the specialists of latvia training courses in political science, economics, and international relations. Jurkans, for his part, pointed out that Latvia would like the United States to recognize the independent status of Latvia. He stated that the refusal by the U.S. side to recognize the incorporation of the Baltic republics into the USSR in 1940 does not suffice any longer.

Among other things, Jurkans said that we understand the unwillingness of the U.S. side to recognize our independence just now. As Godmanis reported, President Bush supported the peaceful and gradual transition of Latvia to independence and promised to treat the requests seriously.

House Committee Votes To Reduce Pentagon Budget

PM0708123590 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 3 Aug 90 Second Edition p 4

[TASS report: "Congressmen Reduce Military Budget"]

[Text] Washington, 2 Aug—Les Aspin, chairman of the U.S. House of Representatives Armed Services Committee, called the draft U.S. military budget adopted by the committee a reflection of the real improvements occurring in the world. The overwhelming majority of this committee's members advocated a $24-billion reduction of the G. Bush administration's request for military needs. At the same time, the congressmen made significant cuts in appropriations to the Pentagon for making modern weapons. They primarily include the program for the latest B-2 "Stealth" strategic bomber, the MX and "Midgetman" ICBM's, as well as SDI.

At the news conference on Capitol Hill, L. Aspin said: "We can make reductions in the defense budget by proceeding on the basis of the irreversible changes that have taken place in the Soviet Union." Furthermore, the congressman went on, the committee's decision is also dictated by the realization of the fact that the "cold war" is over.

Canadian Defense Chief Tours Military Schools

LD0708213190 Moscow TASS in English 2018 GMT 7 Aug 90

[By TASS correspondent Yuriy Rublevskiy]

[Text] Moscow August 7 TASS—General John de Chasterlain, Canadian national defence headquarters chief, is continuing his visit to the Soviet Union. He arrived in Moscow on Monday at the invitation of General Moiseyev, chief of staff of the USSR Armed Forces and first deputy defence minister.

This morning, Chasterlain visited the Military Academy of the General Staff of the USSR Armed Forces, where he spoke to professors and lecturers of this educational establishment. Chasterlain told them about the Canadian military doctrine and dwelt on pan-European security issues, armed forces and armaments reduction and bilateral Soviet-Canadian relations in the military field.

In the afternoon, a special plane took the Canadian guest to the city of Ryazan, 300 kilometers south of Moscow, where he toured the Ryazan Higher Airborne Command School. He familiarised himself with the educational process and the school's class and laboratory base. Hand-to-hand fighting classes, demonstration parachute jumps and a comprehensive training system made a great impression on Chasterlain.

He described his visit to the Ryazan Higher School as exceptionally informative. He told TASS about his intention to press for a regular exchange of cadets, specialists, equipment and technology between Canadian and Soviet airborne troops. "I want this exchange to be a reality already in near future," Chasterlain said.

Canadian Embassy Reacts to Emigration Society

PM3007130590 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 26 Jul 90 Morning Edition p 2

[Dispatch by Leonid Levitskiy: "Canada Here We Come?"]

[Text] Tallinn—The Tartu newspaper VPERED has published a talk with Artur Kuznetsov, Estonian minister of national relations. The minister (he is from Tartu and until recently worked as senior scientific staffer at an institute) urges his compatriots to display common sense.

This appeal is timely and necessary: A month ago a group was created which has now been reorganized into the "Canada" emigration committee. There are about 500 people anxious to emigrate to Canada on its lists. The majority are representatives of the Russian-speaking population.

The creation of the group and committee was impelled by rumors that Canada intends to accelerate the development of a number of its territories and is in need of workers. Unfortunately, the rumors carried little authenticity. A. Korobov, one of the initiators of the departure, visited the Canadian Embassy in Moscow, where he was told that the country accepts only those USSR citizens who have immediate relations who are Canadian. In addition, age, special qualifications, and knowledge of the language are considered. To circumvent the ban the idea arose of renouncing Soviet citizenship and seeking political refugee status. The organizers of the committee promise to help overcome emigration difficulties.

"Are there any grounds for these guarantees?" I ask Estonian Deputy Foreign Minister Toyvo Kuldseppa.

"Alas, there are none. Estonia and the Soviet Union merely determine the rules for emigration. It is well known that recently the relevant laws have been adopted. To all appearances they will be very liberal. So the political action of collective renunciation of citizenship is absolutely pointless."

Northeast Asia

ROK Sees 'Realistic Cooperation' With USSR

LD0708210490 Moscow TASS in English 1921 GMT 7 Aug 90

[By TASS correspondent Oleg Polovko]

[Text] Moscow August 7 TASS—The visit to the Soviet Union by the South Korean economic delegation marked the beginning of realistic fruitful cooperation between the two countries in the trade-and-economic field, the leader of the delegation Kim Jong-in, assistant to the president for economic affairs, told TASS today.

It is for the first time that an official economic delegation from the Republic of Korea visited the Soviet Union from August 1-7. The delegation held talks in the USSR State Planning Committee, the Ministry for Foreign Economic Relations, the Ministry of Finance and a number of other union ministries and departments.

The talks focused on the stimulation of trade-and-economic relations between the two countries and on elevating them to the state level. The talks were successful, the leader of the delegation said.

Although no official documents were signed during the visit, the two sides reached accord in principle that intergovernmental agreements on the inadmissibility of double taxation, on guarantees of capital investments, as well as on fisheries, and scientific and technical cooperation be concluded in the near future, Kim Jong-in said.

The South Korean delegation handed over a package of proposals to the Soviet side, he said. The proposals are expected to boost bilateral economic cooperation.

It was also agreed to hold a new meeting between representatives of the two countries at the end of August and early in September this year to discuss specific aspects of such cooperation.

Positively appraising the results of the visit, the delegation leader said the expansion of trade-and-economic contacts between the Soviet Union and South Korea "should be regarded as an integral part of the normalisation of the entire spectrum of relationships between the two countries."

DPRK Seen as 'Not Always Honest' in Trade

SK0708221290 Moscow International Service in Korean 1100 GMT 6 Aug 90

[From the "Focus on Asia" program]

[Text] PRAVDA carried an article by economics scholar (Natalya Vazanova) on some aspects of trade and economic cooperation between the USSR and the DPRK. We are now going to give you the gist of the article:

The Soviet Union has always been the DPRK's most important trade partner and will remain so in the future, wrote PRAVDA. For years in the postwar period, the Soviet Union provided 90 percent of the DPRK's imports, ranging from such much needed items as automobiles to foodstuffs. Even now, nearly half of the DPRK's trade volume is conducted with the Soviet Union. The Soviet Union imports from the DPRK such raw materials as zinc, lead, cadmium, and magnesia clinker.

Frankly, the Korean colleagues are not always honest in fulfilling their duty. They even go so far as to delay the delivery to the Soviet Union of goods which can be converted into hard currency if sold to Western countries. As a result, the DPRK suffers deficits in trade with the Soviet Union.

PRAVDA wrote: As a rule, payment for the DPRK's debts are delayed, or sometimes have not been not paid at all.

Even the scope of technological assistance the Soviet Union has provided for its neighbor in the Far East is staggering. Thanks to our assistance, approximately 70 plants have been built in the northern part of the Korean peninsula, and this equals one-fourth of the total industrial output of the DPRK.

In return for technological assistance given to Pyongyang, the Soviet Union gets back less than 30 percent of the total amount of funds involved. About R300 million have been given to the DPRK in arms aid alone.

One would naturally wonder why we are so generous. Moscow has long regarded Pyongyang as a major base that defends its interests in the Far East. The Soviet leadership has spent money lavishly on providing its ally with (?living expenses) and on buying back products from that ally. Even though the DPRK has survived, it is, regrettably, losing out to the ROK in economic competition.

The Soviet Union is partially responsible for the difficulties facing the DPRK. For instance, Moscow forced the DPRK to adopt a Soviet management system operated under administrative orders that govern the economic management system. The weakness of such a system has restricted the development in the DPRK's productivity.

Not only has the Soviet Union stopped forcing its own outdated business management on its Far Eastern neighbor, but it has also begun freeing itself from such outdated business practices.

However, this is not the only reason the DPRK, which has been receiving assistance from the Soviet Union for years, began to lag. The assistance itself has numerous weak points. That is, in planning cooperation, the DPRK insisted on a [word indistinct] view on expanding capital construction, instead of developing new technological processes, said PRAVDA.

The DPRK began building a large number of plants without taking into consideration material, technical, and labor resources. Consequently, some enterprises have never been put into full operation, due to shortages in energy, raw materials, and labor force. Not only the Soviet leaders, but also the Korean leaders who insisted on building prestigious but impractical plants are to blame.

In truth, however, the DPRK has never been satisfied with the assistance from the Soviet Union. Rather, it has frequently complained that the Soviet Union forced on it unacceptable experiences, and that the Soviet Union has tried to bring the DPRK under political control. The DPRK has also criticized the Soviet Union for buying Korean products at cheaper prices in return for the supplies of exorbitantly expensive facilities and outdated technology.

In order to make the Soviet-Korean cooperation effective, it is imperative to drastically reform the economic management system in the two countries. Such a restructuring is under way in the Soviet Union, but it is not yet visible in North Korea.

Even though the Soviet Union is willing to help its neighbor enormously, the DPRK will not be able to solve all the difficulties as long as the arms race and military confrontation are left to continue on the Korean peninsula. Also, such difficulties will tag behind the DPRK until it establishes working contacts with many countries in the global village. Cooperation must be put on an orbit of reciprocity under the present conditions.

In such cooperative relations, there should be no such thing as a junior country or senior country. Nor should there be a country that is generous in giving assistance or a country that politely receives it. Relations set up within such an outdated framework are destined to lead to mutual unhappiness and mutual disputes [punjaeng].

However, equal footing alone is not enough. Mutual economic stimulation is also necessary to (?further) contacts.

As for trade, an excessively concentrated style of trade is already out of fashion. Administrative and trade institutions of the two countries should find the right trade partners and right goods on their own and then agree on terms of export.

The civilized world is built precisely on such a scheme of things. The two countries should step back from the formula of technological cooperation being forced down from above and instead enter the stage of establishing joint ventures. Now, is there anything that keeps the two countries from inviting business firms from the ROK, Japan, China and other countries to establish joint ventures? When this is done, it may provide tens of new recipes for mutual economic functions.

What matters, however, is to free the USSR-DPRK economic ties from the chains of economic management operated under administrative orders without delay, wrote (Natalya Vazanova) in her PRAVDA article.

Japanese Sanctions Against Iraq Hailed

OW0808051790 Moscow in Japanese to Japan 1200 GMT 7 Aug 90

[Commentary by Dmitriyev]

[Text] We will now broadcast Radio Moscow commentator Dmitriyev's commentary on Japan's reactions to the Iraqi invasion into Kuwait:

Observers unanimously hold that Japan's actions against the Iraqi attack against Kuwait are unprecedentedly courageous. The Japanese Government officially denounced attacks by Iraqi troops and demanded their withdrawal. Furthermore, it announced strict measures for economic sanctions. Included in these measures are a ban of oil imports from Iraq and Kuwait, a ban on all types of trade with these two nations, and a freeze of economic aid programs to Iraq. Following the announcement of these sanction measures, an official source admits that they will impact on the livelihood of the

Japanese people and calls for electric power conservation. On the other hand, Prime Minister Kaifu states that Japan has stores of oil that can be used for 142 days.

According to information obtained from Tokyo, in deciding on these measures Prime Minister Kaifu had to overcome strong opposition originally indicated by the Ministry of International Trade and Industry for fear that rejection of oil import from Iraq and Kuwait might arouse serious problems in the Japanese economy.

The oil imported from Iraq and Kuwait accounts for 12 percent of the oil sold on the Japanese market. In order to indicate its solidarity with the international community, Japan will have to sacrifice interests that have a direct impact on Japan itself. However, in so doing, Japan can indicate that it shares political responsibility at a high level.

This fact is more noteworthy because it involves damage to Japan's oil import interests. Traditionally, Japan used to show caution and nervousness in dealing with the oil import issue. As is well known, Japan imports 99 percent of its oil. It seems that it is precisely for these reasons that Japan's direct interests will be affected. It conforms to Japan's long-term interests that conflicts in the regions that are comparatively important to Japan should be stopped immediately and conflicts should be prevented from becoming escalated or prolonged—just like the Iran-Iraq war.

In other words Japan's actions, aimed at early settlement of the dispute through political measures, are not in conflict at all with its long-term interests. Moreover, the UN Security Council recently adopted a resolution on these measures and the EC and the United States jointly decided on the same measures. Moreover, the Soviet Union denounced the Iraqi invasion into Kuwait and decided on a temporary halt to arms supply, and China has taken the same measures.

Under such circumstances, Prime Minister Kaifu's upcoming visit to Middle East nations has aroused attention because the Iraqi invasion of Kuwait has basically created new conditions for his trip. Generally speaking, Japan's future position and [words indistinct] in the Middle East will probably depend on what approach Prime Minister Kaifu will take during his trip. The information received so far indicates that Prime Minister Kaifu intends to sign agreements on expanding oil imports from Oman and Saudi Arabia to make up for damages caused by banning oil imports from Iraq and Kuwait.

Here, I would like to touch on another issue. Citing the new Middle East situation as an example, Singaporean Deputy Prime Minister Goh Chok Tong stressed that Sinagpore should never be allowed to fall into the same situation and he then advocated strengthening of its national defense. There is a growing tendency towards this view in the world now. In some places it even has given impetus to the expansion of armaments. It is predicted in some quarters that people are beginning to feel suspicious about the certainty of a relaxation of tension.

In fact, under the recent situation in which the international atmosphere has been improving steadily, the Iraqi invasion was received as a shock just like the U.S. advance into Panama. Some nations want to build up their military capability in response to the recent Iraqi invasion of Kuwait. If such reactions should continue to exist, I don't think they should be called appropriate.

One of the lessons that can be learned from the Iraqi invasion of Kuwait lies in the fact that other regions should try, in a more positive way, to master the practice of achieving political settlement on various problems pertaining to East-West relations. There is little possibility that a crisis similar to the recent one would take place in the Asia-Pacific region. However, what can serve as a perfect guarantee is to turn the structure of international tension into the structure of dialogue and cooperation in the Asia-Pacific region, similar to what has been done in Europe.

Kaifu Expresses 'Desire To Get Back' Kurils

PM0808095590 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 7 Aug 90 Second Edition p 4

[From PRAVDA-TASS roundup dated 6 August under the rubric "From the Flow of News": "Japan"]

[Text] Speaking at a news conference in the city of Hiroshima today, Japanese Prime Minister Toshiki Kaifu advocated expanding humanitarian and technical exchanges with the USSR. He was there to participate in a ceremony devoted to the 45th anniversary of the U.S. atomic bombing of Hiroshima. At the same time, as the KYODO news agency reports, the Japanese head of government emphasized that, in developing an exchange in these spheres with the Soviet Union, the Japanese side "must continue efforts to get the USSR to understand its desire to get back all four northern islands and to utilize any opportunity for this."

Japanese Defense Budget Plans Viewed

OW0708114090 Moscow in Japanese to Japan 1000 GMT 6 Aug 90

[Commentary by Kalinin]

[Text] Of late, lively discussions have taken place in Japan on the next fiscal year's military budgets. In this connection, Radio Moscow military commentator Kalinin stated the following:

The Japanese Defense Agency [DA] originally demanded that military expenditures for the next fiscal year should be increased by 6.3 percent. However, as a result of its consultations with the Finance Ministry, it was finally decided that military spending for the next fiscal year should be increased by 5.84 percent, the lowest rate of increase in the past ten years. Some people in Japan are trying to prove that the decision indicates that Japan is riding on the wave of defusing international tension. However, such a view is certainly too optimistic. Even viewed calmly, it is nothing but an exaggeration and far from reality.

Of course, it is noteworthy that it was decided that increases in the military budget should occur at a lower rate than originally planned. At any rate, however, it should never be forgotten that the decision does not mean freezing military expenditures, not to mention reduction. On the contrary, there are signs of increasing military spending. Moreover, such signs are considerably conspicuous.

In total military expenditures, Japan ranks high in the world. It will be sufficient to cite this fact as proof of how enormous Japan's military spending is. Recently, TOKYO SHIMBUN wrote that Japan's national defense spending had increased at a very rapid pace. Even at present, Japan ranks number three in the world in its total military expenditures.

To go into detail, Japan's military expenditures for last year account for one-third that of the Soviet Union. It should be pointed out that despite the fact that a decision was made on reducing part of the DA's budget demands, it would not have any effect on the DA's plans for the new defense buildup program. DA Director General Ishikawa also touched on this issue in his interview with NHK [Japan Broadcasting Company] and stated that it would not affect the plan to procure sophisticated weapons from the United States.

Incidentally, this plan for procuring weapons is considerably large-scale. For instance, the U.S. Defense Department recently announced that it would sell Japan a large number of weapons amounting to $825 million. Included in this plan are two E-2C Hawkeyes equipped with AWACS; 75 Harpoons, which are vessel-to-vessel missiles; and Aegis ships equipped with sophisticated air defense devices. In addition, the DA plans to procure air tankers that will greatly expand the sphere of action of the Japanese Air Force. There are other plans for improving the major frontal equipment of the Japanese Self-Defense Forces.

It goes without saying that such a policy as taken by Japan stands in strong contrast to the positive approach taken elsewhere in the world. As is known to all, the Soviet Union has unilaterally reduced its troop strength as well as its military spending. The United States and some of its allies are planning to take the same measures as the Soviet Union. Moreover, negotiations on reducing conventional forces in Europe will be concluded soon, and there is a growing tendency to promote the same process gradually in Asia.

Under such circumstances, it would be utterly impossible to defend or justify Japan's policy in defense buildup. [Words indistinct] of course, one could once again raise the issue of the Soviet military threat, as usual. According to Japanese press reports, authors of the new defense white paper, which is under preparation now, cite the so-called Soviet military threat as the reason for promoting defense buildup.

Nevertheless, there are not many people who will believe this reason now. The expanded foreign ministerial conference of ASEAN was held in Jarkarta recently, and I think it is no accident that apprehensions were expressed at this conference that Japan might become a military power.

Japanese Nuclear Experts Visit Plutonium Plant

PM0708172190 Moscow Television Service in Russian 1430 GMT 3 Aug 90

[Report by Sergey Sergeyev from the "Vremya" newscast]

[Text] [Announcer] A group of nuclear power engineering experts from Japan has visited the Southern Urals for the first time. Here is a report by our correspondent Sergey Sergeyev:

[Sergeyev] In the forests on the banks of Lake Irtyash is the city of the Chelyabinsk nuclear industry workers.

Only a year or two ago the Japanese could not even have dreamed of visiting this top secret zone, and especially the "Mayak" Chemical Combine where weapons-grade plutonium is produced—the substance used in the manufacture of nuclear charges for bombs and missiles. [video shows street scene, Japanese alighting from bus, and various aspects of the plant's interior] Inspection of this major defense industry association is one of the main items on the program of the Japanese experts' visit to our country which is taking place in accordance with the USSR Ministry of Nuclear Power Generation and the Nuclear Industry plan for international scientific and technical contacts.

Tokyo University Professor A. Suzuki, head of the delegation of the Japanese Nuclear Industry Forum, said at a press conference that they were struck especially by the scale of the enterprise, the high level of the staff's professional training, and the successes achieved in the solution of problems connected with the utilization and storage of nuclear production waste. [video shows Suzuki talking to journalists in Japanese with reporter's superimposed Russian translation] These problems are a dilemma for all countries where nuclear power industry is being developed. The experience of our colleagues in the Urals unquestionably deserves attention. It would be good if we could pool the efforts of Soviet and Japanese scientists and experts so as to cope with our tasks more successfully. We hope that our trip to the Southern Urals will help to establish mutually beneficial scientific and technical cooperation in the sphere of nuclear power engineering, Mr. Suzuki said.

Middle East & South Asia

Soviet Naval Involvement in Gulf Denied

PM0808083790 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 8 Aug 90 Morning Edition p 4

[Roundup by Yu. Gatselyuk under the general heading "Crisis, Sanctions, Preparations": "No Sensation..."]

[Text] The amount of news on the development of events we are covering is exceptionally large—it is hard to fit it all on one page. But we cannot ignore the following REUTER report:

"Dubayy, 6 Aug—Eyewitnesses reported Monday that a Soviet missile cruiser was heading for the Persian Gulf.

"The 'Udaloy'-class vessel was spotted by a group of Western cameramen aboard a military helicopter overflying the sea to spot any military activity.

"It was not possible to establish the name of the cruiser, which was accompanied by two Soviet auxiliaries.

"Ships of this class carry eight missile launchers and two helicopters on board.

"The flotilla was approximately 50 miles off al-Fujayrah (United Arab Emirates) and two hours away from the Strait of Hormuz. It was also not established whether this cruiser is one of the Soviet warships on permanent military duty in the Persian Gulf."

The editorial office asked Fleet Admiral V. Chernavin, commander in chief of the Soviet Navy, to comment on this report.

"No," Vladimir Nikolayevich said, "we have not sent any of our naval vessels to the coast of Kuwait. At any rate, nobody has set us such a task. Of course, the situation could change, but I repeat that the Soviet Navy is not involved in an action of this sort."

No Troops Expected

AU0808091890 Paris AFP in English 0855 GMT 8 Aug 90

[Text] Moscow, Aug 8 (AFP)—The Soviet Armed Forces daily Red Star made clear Wednesday that Soviet troops would not take part in a foreign military intervention in the Gulf where it said a Western military presence could only exacerbate the crisis. The paper made no explicit reference to the plan announced on Tuesday to dispatch a U.S.-led multinational force to Saudi Arabia to discourage an attack on that country by Iraqi forces from Kuwait.

In the past, Red Star said Moscow had taken "unfounded decisions" to send troops abroad to do their "internationalist duty"—a reference to the Afghan war—but it said: "At present there are no Soviet soldiers involved in military operations anywhere in the world and there is every reason to believe this situation will continue."

The commentator said Western military intervention was likely to make the situation in the Gulf "even more dangerous". "Even though most Arab countries have condemned the Iraqi invasion, the opinion prevailing among them is that there should be no military intervention by the West, otherwise the situation in the region could get even more dangerous."

Further on Belonogov Answers on Gulf Crisis

PM0708205790 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 8 Aug 90 Morning Edition p 1

[Report by IZVESTIYA diplomatic correspondent M. Yusin under the rubric "At the USSR Foreign Ministry": "Iraq-Kuwait: No Way Out of the Crisis To Be Seen"]

[Text] Deputy Minister A.M. Belonogov had a meeting with journalists on the evening of 6 August at the USSR Foreign Ministry devoted to Iraq's invasion of Kuwait.

First, the deputy minister described the steps that Soviet diplomacy has taken to settle the crisis. "From the very outset of the conflict it became clear that we were dealing with unadulterated aggression," Belonogov said. According to him, the difficulty of the choice facing the USSR was determined by the fact that Iraq is "one of the few countries with which we had not just close, but also mutually beneficial economic relations. Naturally we're not pleased at the prospect of breaking off Soviet-Iraqi relations. But there was no other way out.

"The first day after the Iraqi troops crossed the Kuwaiti border the USSR leadership sent a message to Iraq's president, Saddam Husayn, voicing our opinion of the action Baghdad had taken. Two days later we received an answer from Husayn addressed to President Gorbachev. I am not empowered to reveal its contents. But I can state generally that we found no extenuating circumstances in this document that might have changed the USSR's attitude to the Iraqi invasion. A few hours after receiving Saddam Husayn's answer the Soviet leadership sent him another message urgently recommending that he take a serious view of UN Security Council Resolution No. 660." (This resolution demands the immediate withdrawal of Iraqi troops and the restoration of Kuwaiti sovereignty.)

How did Baghdad react to the Soviet standpoint? According to Belonogov, there has been no official reaction. But a harshly anti-Soviet article appeared in AL-IRAQ on 5 August. "In Iraq's conditions, where no difference of opinion is permitted, this article was, of course, authorized by a higher authority. Its publication at precisely this time is no accident. This is a warning to us," the deputy minister said.

At the same time people at the Foreign Ministry think it unlikely that Baghdad will move to worsen its relations with the USSR. In a situation in which Iraq has begun to panic at the possibility of the United States or Israel entering the war, Saddam Husayn is not interested in acquiring another enemy. The Iraqi ambassador to the USSR has given assurances that the occupying forces in Kuwait will guarantee the safety of Soviet citizens and will, if there are problems with food and water supplies (which may occur in a few days), supply our compatriots with everything they need. In view of the fact that, according to precise data, there are 880 Soviets in Kuwait (including 162 women and children) the USSR attaches great importance to the fulfillment of these pledges.

The Foreign Ministry is working on various options for evacuating Soviet citizens from Kuwait. There are plans to bring our compatriots out by sea (which is the most likely option) and by air. A land evacuation would hardly be possible since the roads leading out of the Kuwaiti capital are blocked by Iraqi troops. The situation is complicated by the fact that that all Kuwait's sea and airports are closed at present. One thing is clear now: In the event of an evacuation, women and children will be brought out first.

The editorial office has received reports saying that Bulgaria and Czechoslovakia have asked the USSR to help evacuate their citizens from Kuwait.

What is Moscow's position on the sanctions question? Belonogov said that the USSR would prefer not to introduce all possible bans and restrictions right away in order to ensure that the Security Council has some measures left in reserve in case Iraq refuses to carry out Resolution 660. Thus, the Soviet and U.S. approaches have diverged for the first time since the "Kuwaiti crisis" began. The United States is pressing for maximum sanctions, and everything indicates that there are few people in the Security Council who back the Soviet "moderate line." And even Moscow, it seems, is unlikely to insist on it. At any rate, Belonogov indicated that the Soviet spokesman on the Security Council will vote in favor of the "tough" resolution on sanctions prepared by the Americans.

The deputy minister gave the following reply to a question as to the reason for Cuba's special position, manifested the day before, during the preliminary discussion of the sanctions question in the Security Council: "In all probability, the Cubans are influenced by the fact that the text of the resolution has largely been prepared by the United States."

Wide-ranging economic sanctions against Iraq (which envisage a ban on import-export operations for all categories of commodities and products produced in Iraq and Kuwait) will strike at the Soviet economy. "In taking these steps, we are cutting ourselves to the quick, damaging that cooperation which we have established with Baghdad over the decades," Belonogov pointed out. "But the USSR will nevertheless rigorously comply with the Security Council resolution."

The vote on the sanctions question was held Monday night, Moscow time. As expected, almost all members of the Security Council—Canada, Colombia, the Ivory Coast, the United States, Ethiopia, Finland, France, Britain, Malaysia, Zaire, the USSR, China, and Romania—supported the resolution. Only two countries abstained—Cuba and Yemen.

How will events develop in the future? Belonogov said that a further escalation of the conflict cannot, unfortunately, be ruled out. For instance, through U.S. entry into the hostilities. This will occur, in his opinion, in two cases: first, if something tragic happens to American citizens in Kuwait; second, if Iraq invades Saudi Arabia. U.S. Defense Secretary R. Cheney's visit to Riyadh illustrates that Washington will not tolerate aggression against its most reliable ally in the Near East.

Of course, the Americans would prefer things not to reach the point of open conflict with Iraq, if only because they are not prepared for it. There are clearly insufficient U.S forces in the region to fight successfully against the million-strong army equipped with modern weapons and hardened by its eight-year war with Iran.... The transfer of reinforcements will take too long and cost too much.

Belonogov confirmed that there is no question of Moscow's recognizing the puppet "free Kuwaiti government": "We still recognize Amir Jabir al-Sabah as Kuwait's legitimate leader. The deputy minister also said that, after studying the list of the new "government" (which, as is well known, is made up of Army officers), the Kuwaiti ambassador to the USSR said that there were no members of the Kuwaiti Armed Forces by those names.

In response to the question of how many Soviet military specialists there are in Iraq, a ministry spokesman in charge of the Near East who was present at the meeting with journalists said that there are roughly 1,000 such people in Iraq.

A.M. Belonogov pointed out that the position taken by the Arab states is particularly important for the future development of events. "The Arab world also, unfortunately, proved divided this time," he said. "Some countries have for all intents and purposes backed Baghdad. Some are afraid of Iraqi military might, others have a negative attitude toward Kuwait's ruling dynasty. However, most Arab states have condemned Iraq.... A trend has emerged of late which should be taken into consideration. People in the Arab capitals are saying increasingly frequently that the Iraq-Kuwait conflict is an intra-Arab affair. Western states, primarily the United States, should show caution in view of this position. If there is a sudden change in the situation (if, for instance, the United States enters the war), the Arabs could suddenly change the front, and anti-American sentiments will take the place of the currently prevailing anti-Iraqi sentiments.

Reportage on Status of Soviets in Kuwait, Iraq

'No Threat' Seen

PM0808132690 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 8 Aug 90 Second Edition p 5

[Interview with S.V. Kirpichenko, section chief at the USSR Foreign Ministry Near East and North African Countries Administration, by PRAVDA correspondent D. Kosyrev under general heading "Iraq-Kuwait" and the rubric "From Competent Sources"; place and date not given: "What About Our People There?"—first paragraph is PRAVDA introduction]

[Text] What about our people there? This question, which is worrying Soviet people, was answered for PRAVDA correspondent D. Kosyrev by S.V. Kirpichenko, section chief at the USSR Foreign Ministry Near East and North African Countries Administration.

[Kirpichenko] According to the USSR Embassy in Kuwait, there is no threat to the health and safety of Soviet people in that country. The same applies to our compatriots in Iraq. Contact with Baghdad on this question is being maintained continuously. As you realize, the circumstances are such that the situation in Kuwait now is really under the control of Iraq. Whether land, sea, and air routes from Kuwait are opened depends on the Iraqi authorities. Baghdad states that USSR citizens can leave, but we do not know how this is to be done—safety guarantees are necessary here.

[Kosyrev] How many of our people are there in Kuwait?

[Kirpichenko] About 900. For the most part they are specialists working on erecting oil rigs under contract between the two countries. The majority of them are there without their families, so there are comparatively few women and children. The USSR Foreign Ministry, I can add, is carefully monitoring the situation in Iraq and Kuwait, and in particular the position of other foreign citizens in those countries.

Compatriots Reported Safe

LD0708192290 Moscow Television Service in Russian 1700 GMT 7 Aug 90

[From the "Vremya" newscast]

[Text] The "Vremya" program has received many telegrams expressing concern over the fate of Soviet citizens staying in Kuwait and Iraq. Here are some of them signed by Ganba, Poskonina, Proskurina.

We asked Yuriy Aleksandrovich Gremitskikh, representative of the USSR Foreign Ministry. He said that all the Soviet citizens—staff of state missions and specialists—are safe. The other day, USSR Deputy Foreign Minister Belonogov met the Kuwaiti and Iraqi ambassadors and pointed out to them the need for both countries to take all measures ensuring the safety of Soviet citizens staying there. We hope, the USSR Foreign Ministry representatives concluded, that these appeals have been correctly understood and the appropriate conclusions will be drawn from them.

Evacuation From Kuwait Planned 'Soon'

LD0708211390 Moscow Television Service in Russian 2011 GMT 7 Aug 90

[From the "Television News Service" program]

[Text] The Soviet news agency NOVOSTI has reported that about 850 Soviet citizens in Kuwait will soon be evacuated, first by sea to Dubayy, then by air to Moscow. There are no casualties among the Soviet citizens.

Status of Arms Sales to Iraq Examined

LD0708130490 Moscow Television Service in Russian 0230 GMT 7 Aug 90

[From the "120 Minutes" program presented by Yevgeniy Kiselev, with studio announcer Irina Mishina and Andrey Afanasyevich Kokoshin, member of the USSR Academy of Sciences and deputy director of the USA and Canada Institute]

[Text] [Kiselev] We have another interesting piece of information, namely that experts calculate that if the present levels of Soviet oil exports are maintained and the Iraqi-Kuwaiti conflict continues for a relatively lengthy period, the rise in world oil prices could, by the end of this year, bring about an increase of approximately $750 million in the volume of Soviet Union's foreign currency receipts. One nevertheless hopes that this war will end, and we will probably be willing to forego these $750 million for the sake of stability in the Near East.

And there is another topic we would like to discuss with you in more detail today. The fact is that for the first time in history, perhaps, in the course of the Iranian... sorry... the Iraqi-Kuwait [changes thought] undertaken by Iraq, a country with which the Soviet Union has friendship and cooperation. Furthermore, for the first time, the Soviet Union has officially and publicly issued a statement to the effect that it is stopping arms supplies to another country. This topic of Soviet arms supplies abroad is being commented on by virtually all analysts touching on one aspect or another of the problem of the Persian Gulf region conflict.

Regarding the role of the USSR in the world arms trade, we asked a specialist, an independent expert, so to speak, Andrey Afanasyevich Kokoshin, corresponding members of the USSR Academy of Sciences, deputy director of the USA and Canada Institute, to comment on this question. He is here with us in the studio.

[Mishina] Andrey Afanasyevich, I should like to start straightaway with a question. A few days ago, at a briefing in the USSR Foreign Ministry press center, I asked Gremitskikh, deputy head of the Information

Department of the USSR Foreign Ministry, about the current state of contacts in the military sphere between the Soviet Union and Iraq. I was told, however, that the Foreign Ministry could not answer that, and I was advised to turn to a specialist. I should like to take the opportunity of putting that question to you now.

[Kokoshin] Unfortunately, we have no official Soviet data on our arms supplies to Iraq or to other countries, and people engaged in analyzing our policy, our military policy in respect of those countries in the Third World or and in the world as a whole are compelled to make use of data adduced by various foreign organizations. According to this data, our supplies to Iraq are of course extremely huge. According to International Institute of Strategic Studies in London, for instance, the Soviet Union supplied Iraq with more than 70 percent of its current tank pool, about 60 percent of all the combat aircraft at Iraq's disposal. But it should also be pointed out that in addition to the Soviet Union, many countries supply arms to Iraq: France, Brazil, Italy, FRG, Austria, South Africa. And the Soviet Union's share in arms supplies to Iraq shrank to almost half in the 1980s, according to the data from that same institute, as the other countries' increased their proportion.

[Kiselev] And what does this institute estimate the total volume of the Soviet arms trade to be?

[Kokoshin] One should regard these estimates with a great deal of caution, you know, because they are calculated on the basis of certain physical volumes which are then converted into dollars according to world market prices. According to all the estimates by foreign research centers, though, the Soviet Union has for a number of years been firmly at the top of the world list of arms suppliers.

[Mishina] Andrey Afanasyevich, do the ends always justify the means? Are the political dividends you receive as a result of backing certain regimes always great?

[Kokoshin] No doubt, you know, this is different in each case. Overall, I have to say that I think our costs—if one takes arms supplies to the Third World, the political costs—have for a long time at least been comparable to the dividends. It should be borne in mind that our policy on major arms deliveries began at a time when the process of national liberation movements was still active. That process has now, in its traditional expression, come to an end and did so long ago, while the supplies are provided to an ever greater degree on a purely commercial basis. They do, of course, on occasion provide us with considerable economic benefits but sometimes they result in losses since many supplies are made on the basis of credits and the credits are not then backed by those in receipt of our arms. I should like to say that the case of the Iraqi aggression against Kuwait, the invasion of Kuwait, has once again thrown light on the need for a very serious and profound reconsideration of our obligations to the Third World....

[Kiselev, interrupting] You know, in connection with....

[Kokoshin, interrupting] ...which was due long ago.

[Kiselev] I should like to draw attention to the following point. To start with: debt. IZVESTIA did not say that all of this debt consisted of arms supplies. We can, however, presume that the debt for arms supplies amounts to a sizeable proportion. And here is a curious fact: In an interview with the correspondent of DELOVYEE LYUDI [Business People] magazine, a new magazine being published in our country, the deputy USSR minister for foreign economic relations was asked how close to reality is the fact that according to certain sources, of the almost 90 billion rubles owed the USSR by other countries, almost half is for supplies of military hardware that have not been paid for. Here is what Admiral Grishin, the deputy USSR minister for foreign economic relations, said in reply, answering, one must assume, the question on arms supplies from the magazine correspondent: What do you want? Another outburst of emotion among the public? It would be an information bomb—those are literally his words—if my answer is to the point. A second point. That was me trying to comment on what you have said. The second question is for you: To what extent are we governed by moral principles, do you think, when we supply this or that regime with arms?

[Kokoshin] You know, I'll start perhaps somewhere else. It is inevitable that that bomb will explode. Specialists from various fields need to be sitting down now and investigating the situation that has arisen regarding our arms supplies. Unfortunately, it seems to me that so far not even the Supreme Soviet or its committees have approached this matter. This state of affairs cannot continue. As for morality or amorality, yes, we have undoubtedly proclaimed new principles in our foreign policy and we are trying to stick to them. In general, we are doing so in the majority of directions. Here, however, in this direction, I think we still have vast, untapped possibilities and unresolved tasks.

[Mishina] [Words indistinct] IZVESTIA carried an article about particular criticism of the Soviet Union's foreign policy, which said that we are often late with a specialist appraisal of regimes that have discredited themselves. Do you agree with this?

[Kokoshin] You know, I would put it like this, that we are late in general with a review of our relations with a great many countries of the world. If we have reviewed our relations fairly sucessfully with the developed capitalist world, when it comes to the Third World zone....

[Kiselev, interrupting] Evidently, reconsideration of these relations remains to be done.

[Kokoshin] That's right. And in spite of all the attempts by a number of scientists, for instance....

[Kiselev, interrupting] ...to raise this problem.

[Kokoshin] Right, to raise ths problem, no headway is being made here.

[Kiselev] Well, Andrey Afanasyevich, you know, we may well bring you back once again, if you accept our invitation again and come onto our program. Thank you for your interesting comments. The time allocated for our conversation is now running out....

[Mishina, interrupting] We've got about nine minutes left.

[Kiselev] ...and our program is coming to an end. So thank you once again, and I think we will meet again.

Reportage on Crisis in Persian Gulf

Saudis Agree to U.S. Troops

LD0708210190 Moscow TASS in English 2055 GMT 7 Aug 90

[By TASS correspondents Aleksandr Korolev and Alexey Berezhkov]

[Text] Washington August 8 TASS—Saudi Arabia agreed to the stationing of American troops on its territory in view of an acute crisis brought about in the region by the Iraqi aggression against Kuwait.

The Saudi consent was confirmed by the Pentagon. This decision was made following hours-long talks held by U.S. Secretary of Defence Richard Cheney who arrived in Riyadh on Monday expressly for this purpose.

GCC Condemns Invasion

LD0808083390 Moscow TASS in English 0802 GMT 8 Aug 90

[By TASS correspondent Andrey Malyarov]

[Text] Cairo August 8 TASS—The foreign ministers of member-states of the Gulf Cooperation Council [GCC] have expressed their full solidarity with the Kuwaiti people and their only legal government, headed by Emir Shaykh Jabir al-Ahmad al-Jabir al-Sabah.

They adopted a joint resolution on the results of their conference in Jeddah, describing the Iraqi invasion as gross aggression, violating all norms of international law and Kuwait's independence and sovereignty.

The ministers demanded that Iraq immediately and unconditionally withdraw its forces in compliance with the decisions of the Arab League and the United Nations. They noted the unlawfulness of any changes in Kuwait carried out by the occupation forces or their puppets.

Saddam Husayn Must Be Stopped 'By Force'

LD0708145190 Moscow Radio Peace and Progress in Arabic 1300 GMT 6 Aug 90

[Station commentary]

[Text] Iraq has announced the first phase of the withdrawal of its forces from the state of Kuwait. Its forces occupied this Arab country in the early hours of 2 August. Baghdad announced that this withdrawal is viewed as a result of the agreement between the Iraqi Government and the so-called interim government of Kuwait which has not been recognized by any state in the world. This government comprises military personnel chosen only by Iraq.

At the same time Baghdad noted that a new popular army is being formed in Kuwait. Any person of any nationality can join it. Some 100,000 Iraqis have shown readiness to join this army. We remind you that before the Iraqi aggression the Kuwaiti Army comprised 23,000 men. So talk of actually withdrawing forces is totally meaningless. It is because the State of Kuwait is threatened by the presence of armed forces on its territory including 100,000 Iraqis disguised in Kuwaiti military uniform.

It must be said that many in the Arab world and the world in general were well aware of Saddam Husayn's conduct toward his opponents. One vivid example is the use of toxic material against the Kurdish rebels. However the military aggression against Kuwait was quite sudden, as far as the international community was concerned. No one expected that the Iraqi president was going to exceed all bounds of ethics.

What did Saddam Husayn expect from his detested action? What are the results of his actions? The first part of the scenario through which the Iraqi aggression developed was realized. Yes, Kuwait has been militarily destroyed contrary to all people's expectations. A puppet government was imposed on the country. The aim of this is quite clear: to exploit the financial wealth of the State of Kuwait to repair Iraq's tired budget.

Now we come to the ethical assessment. This is called plundering and nothing else.

What were Saddam Husayn's mistakes? It is clear that the second phase of the scenario presupposes that the Arab world and the international community will turn a blind eye to this adventure. Opinions differed widely in the Arab world. Nevertheless there is no one at the moment who wishes to establish relations with the new Kuwaiti government.

Let us take a look at the reaction of the states of Europe, Japan, the United States, Japan, and the Soviet Union. We would say that their reactions were great and more stormy than the Iraqi president himself expected. The foreign ministers of the Soviet Union and the United States issued an unprecedented joint statement in which they condemned the Iraqi actions and demanded the Iraqi forces' immediate withdrawal from Kuwaiti territories.

It is noteworthy that the United States announced the freezing of all assets of Iraq and Kuwait in banks and called on the Soviet Union to impose an immediate embargo on the delivery of arms to Iraq. It also called on all the states of Europe and Japan to impose sanctions on Iraq, and to cease the import of oil and the delivery of arms to Iraq.

The Security Council has denounced the Iraqi aggression. It will apparently adopt a comprehensive program calling for the economic boycott of Iraq. However, the interim government to Kuwait is resorting to intimidation while also declaring there are many foreign citizens and that none is going to pay attention to their safety.

What awaits Kuwait in the future? We must not make a hasty reply to this question. The equation requires many (?thoughts), but it is now clear that the Iraqi president's actions have complicated his country's relations with the international community to such an extent that this community believes an aggressive and dangerous force has emerged in the Middle East. It cannot be stopped except by force. Thus, the seeds of a new conflict have indeed been sown.

Solton Warns Against Hasty Anti-Iraq Action

LD0708120490 Moscow World Service in English 1110 GMT 7 Aug 90

[Yuriy Solton commentary]

[Excerpts] The United Nations Security Council has taken the decision to introduce sanctions against Iraq. Yuriy Solton comments, and this is what he writes:

I remember only two cases of such far-reaching Security Council sanctions. Actually, an economic blockade has been declared. [passage omitted] The decision was actually unanimous. Only Cuba and Yemen abstained.

The Soviet Union, like other permanent members of the Security Council, backed the resolution. According to a spokesman this was not a simple step. For many years Moscow and Baghdad have maintained friendly relations. Economic cooperation has reached a wide scale. Soviet experts are building scores of major projects in Iraq for which Baghdad pays in hard currency. Moscow appreciates its relations with Iraq. But a double standard in politics is unacceptable for Moscow. Neither our principles nor the new thinking permit us to be guided by double standards. Iraq has committed an act of aggression, and the Soviet Union, like the entire world community, denounced Baghdad.

Even before the Security Council resolution Moscow stopped arms shipments to Iraq. It took this step together with the United States, to show an example to other countries. The joint initiative does not mean, of course, that Moscow will continue automatically approving everything the United States will do with regard to Iraq. The main thing is that Moscow and Washington no longer view local conflict through the prism of East-West relations.

On its own part, the Soviet Union has directly urged the Iraqi leadership to listen to the voice of the world community and pull out its troops from Kuwait. On Monday [6 August] the ambassadors of Iraq and Kuwait were invited to the Soviet Foreign Ministry, where they were told about the stand of the Soviet Union, working for the implementation of Security Council resolutions.

Baghdad's first reactions to the sanctions were negative. But this should not prompt hasty, extremist actions against Iraq that would further complicate the situation in the region. Meanwhile, calls are made to use armed force against Iraq. American warships are concentrating in the Persian Gulf area. France and Britain are also stepping up their military presence there. However, it is wrong for a country to denounce others for violence and at the same time threaten to use force. Hopefully, the Security Council sanctions will be sufficient to bring Baghdad to reason.

Moscow hopes that the Iraqi leadership will do its utmost to carry out the Security Council call and demonstrate to the whole world that the announced withdrawal of troops from Kuwait is not fiction.

Occupation of Kuwait Could Prove 'Pyrrhic Victory'

PM0708115390 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 7 Aug 90 Second Edition p 4

[By Yuriy Glukhov "Viewpoint": "Anachronism"]

[Text] And so, a new crisis rocks the Middle East. It may be one of the most serious in terms of its consequences. I mean Iraq's continuing aggression against neighboring Kuwait. I do not know how carefully Baghdad has calculated the colossal costs of what is, in point of fact, an adventurist step. Maybe illusory notions of an easy and almost bloodless victory over a weak neighbor prevailed. With regard to the military aspect, they are not groundless. But on the political plane this could prove a Pyrrhic victory.

Judge for yourselves. Iraq has created for itself one more conflict situation on the border. And this on top of its strained relations with Syria and the unresolved conflict with Iran. And this at a time when the country acutely needs a respite and an improvement in its economy after a protracted and bloody war.

Baghdad's aggression has caused a commotion and an escalation of world prices for "black gold." But it is highly problematic whether Iraq itself will be able to profit from the situation that has been created. The main consumers of Iraqi oil—the EEC countries and Japan—are announcing a boycott of oil imports. Other economic sanctions are being undertaken. In particular, the United States has frozen Iraqi bank assets.

The unprovoked attack on Kuwait has clearly revealed the aggressive nature of Baghdad's actions. Hence another response to them—the decision to halt military deliveries to Iraq adopted, for example, by the Soviet Union. Considering the long-standing good relations with this country, the decision to impose sanctions of this kind was not easy for us. For we were on Iraq's side during the most difficult times for it. But it is one thing to participate in defense and another to participate in brigandage.

The stand taken by the Soviet Union is probably an indicator of the degree of international isolation in which Iraq finds itself in connection with the recent actions. This has been manifested in the UN Security Council, in the Arab League, and in the reaction of the world public. However, the USSR's negative attitude toward the Iraqi military campaign against Kuwait certainly does not mean that we are not ready to undertake every effort to find a worthy way out of the crisis by giving any assistance possible to the sides in the Iraqi-Kuwaiti conflict.

Continuing my analysis of the situation, I must dwell on the consequences of Iraq's actions for the Near East as a whole. The occupation of one Arab state by another Arab state, with the capture of its capital, is an unprecedented action which has caused a profound shock. It is paradoxical that it was undertaken after the recent summit conference in Baghdad which discussed the strengthening of Arab unity.

And the result? Arabs are killing each other, because of internecine fighting there will be a manifest reduction in financial and economic aid for the Palestinians and other Arab peoples who suffered from Israeli aggression, the general atmosphere of fear and mistrust in the region is being intensified, and the paths to a political settlement of the Arab-Israeli conflict are being undermined.

In our rapidly changing world, which is conscious of the priority of panhuman values and the preservation of peace, the situation in the Near East is increasingly becoming an anachronism: permanent wars between the Arabs and Israel; armed reprisals against an entire people, as is happening with regard to the Palestinians' uprising; flouting of the principles of civilized relations between states, as has happened with Kuwait. Such a situation in the Near East is becoming increasingly intolerable.

Increasingly intolerable because the events happening there threaten the process of detente.

This is why there is growing understanding of the need for joint action to normalize the situation, and not for confrontation, as was the case quite recently. And this is why there is an optimistic note to the somber drama of events in Kuwait. This is the unanimity with which the UN Security Council adopted the decision to condemn the Iraqi armed forces' invasion of Kuwait and to demand their withdrawal. It is the joint Soviet-U.S. statement calling for practical steps to restore the Kuwaiti state's sovereignty, national independence, legitimate authority, and territorial integrity. Collective actions by the great powers and the world community—this is Ariadne's thread leading to a way out of the labyrinth of the Near East conflict and other regional conflicts.

East Europe

Gorbachev Congratulates New Hungarian President

PM0708132590 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian
4 Aug 90 Second Edition p 1

[Undated M. Gorbachev message to Hungarian President Goncz]

[Text] To Mr. Arpad Goncz, president of the Hungarian Republic

I sincerely congratulate you on your election as president of the Hungarian Republic.

I express the hope that relations between the Soviet Union and Hungary will be based upon the common will of the peoples of our two countries to develop constructive, good-neighborly cooperation in a spirit of trust, equality, and mutual benefit and to collaborate actively in the interests of strengthening peace and international security.

I wish you successful activity in your high office.

[Signed] M. Gorbachev

Lukyanov Greets Hungary's Szabad on Election

PM0808090190 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian
6 Aug 90 Morning Edition p 3

[A. Lukyanov greetings message: "To Mr. Gyorgy Szabad, Chairman of the Hungarian State Assembly"]

[Text] Esteemed Mr. Gyorgy Szabad!

Please accept my congratulations on your election as chairman of the Hungarian State Assembly and my wishes for success in your responsible activity for the good of the Hungarian people.

I believe that the development of Soviet-Hungarian interparliamentary ties will promote the strengthening of good-neighborly relations between our countries and peaceful cooperation among the states of the European Continent.

[Signed] A. Lukyanov, chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet

'Difficult but Frank' Talks on Trade With CSFR

PM0708181990 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian
4 Aug 90 Morning Edition p 5

[Report by S. Mushkaterov: "USSR-CSFR: Difficult Dialogue on Trade"]

[Text] The talks were difficult but frank, and they should be continued in the future. That brief description—still unusual from the standpoint of the traditions that have prevailed for many years in "assessments for the press"—of the talks between Czechoslovak and Soviet officials was applied by 37-year-old Vladimir Dlouhy, CSFR economics minister, to his meeting with Yu.D.

Maslyukov, chairman of the USSR Gosplan [State Planning Committee]. After two days of intensive talks he met with journalists at the CSFR Embassy in Moscow.

Judging by everything, the difficulty of the talks was determined by the problems actually discussed there. The main problem was the size of reciprocal deliveries. V. Dlouhy noted that the Czechoslovak side went to Moscow with the firm conviction that, from the standpoint of reciprocal deliveries, it was necessary to insist on the accords reached between the two countries' government leaders in February 1989. These defined reciprocal commitments, specifically as regards the export of oil and certain other Soviet goods to Czechoslovakia for the period up to 1995. On the basis of this agreement lists of output subject to reciprocal deliveries in 1991 were drawn up back in January this year. However, in recent weeks the USSR has been considerably backing away from some of its commitments. One of the main aims of the talks was to clarify the volume of Soviet shipments that Czechoslovakia could count on. We, of course, understand the problems in the Soviet economy, V. Dlouhy said. However, we insist on the volumes stemming from the 1989 agreement and on determining as quickly as possible the list of goods covered by reciprocal deliveries. We have agreed that the experts will continue their work, and Mr. Maslyukov and I will meet in about a month's time, when the Soviet side will be in a position to sign documents.

As was to be expected, the "oil" question was a difficult issue at the talks. It is well known that the Soviet Union is cutting oil deliveries to Czechoslovakia. In the Czechoslovak minister's opinion, taking existing trends into account, the scale of oil delivery shortfalls in August alone will be around 400,000 tonnes. Differences also remain on the size of Soviet oil shipments to Czechoslovakia next year.

Journalists asked about the possibility of direct economic relations being established between the CSFR and individual Soviet republics. I discussed this question, V. Dlouhy said, and in principle Soviet organs have no objection to our cooperating with individual republics, provided union principles of licensing are observed along with customs and other regulations. But in any event these talks of ours should be open and should continue on the basis of mutual agreement with both Union and republic organs, the Czechoslovak minister stressed.

V. Dlouhy also talked about his talks with V.V. Nikitin, first deputy chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers, who heads the Soviet section of the Soviet-Czechoslovak Intergovernmental Commission for Economic, Scientific, and Technical Cooperation. It was agreed that its existence will be expedient in the future as well, although, as V. Dlouhy said, the commission's work in no way accords with today's conditions. In this regard the sides elaborated the principles on which the commission's activities will substantially change.

CSFR Journalists Inquire About Asylum-Seeker

PM0708154390 Moscow KOMSOMOLSKAYA PRAVDA in Russian 5 Aug 90 p 2

[Dispatch by correspondent Ye. Chernykh: "Soldier's Fate"]

[Text] Prague, 4 Aug—Three Czechoslovak journalists have sent an open letter to USSR President M.S. Gorbachev, expressing concern for the fate of A.M. Maslyayev, a native of Kramatorsk City, Donetsk Oblast, serving in the Soviet Central Group of Forces in the CSFR. Maslyayev asked the Czechoslovak authorities for asylum on 17 April. The next day he was sent back to representatives of the Central Group of Forces. There has been no news of the young man's fate since then, the journalists write. The letter writers asked the president to pardon the soldier and give him an opportunity to meet them.

West Europe

Shevardnadze, Genscher Scheduled To Meet 17 Aug

LD0808034590 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 0300 GMT 8 Aug 90

[Text] Yesterday, Tuesday 7 August, there was a telephone conversation between Eduard Amvrosiyevich Shevardnadze, our country's minister of foreign affairs, and his West German counterpart Genscher. They discussed issues related to the upcoming foreign ministers meeting in just over a month's time on 12 September in Moscow within the framework of the two-plus-four talks on the issue of German unification.

A working meeting will take place between the USSR and FRG foreign ministers in Moscow on 17 August.

Gostelradio, Deutsche Welle Sign Accord

LD0708165390 Moscow World Service in English 1500 GMT 7 Aug 90

[Text] On 7 August the Soviet State Committee for Radio and Television Broadcasting [Gostelradio] and the Deutsche Welle station of West Germany signed an agreement on radio broadcasting.

The signatories will exchange programs in culture, sports, leisure, and other areas of mutual interest. They will give each other all-round assistance in preparation of programs, hold radio link-ups, and record musical programs together. The sides will promote exchanges of broadcasters and technical personnel and also of experts in audience response. The agreement clears the way for long-term exchange programs for young staffers. It was signed by deputy chairman of the Soviet Radio and Television Committee and superintendent of Deutsche Welle Dietrich Weirich.

Voronin Concludes Visit to Turkey

LD0808204490 Moscow TASS in English 1858 GMT 7 Aug 90

[By TASS correspondent Valeriy Litvinenko]

[Text] Ankara August 7 TASS—Lev Voronin, first deputy chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers, has completed his official visit to Turkey. The further development of bilateral economic relations was discussed during his talks with Turkish officials.

The visit was an important step in bringing the two peoples closer together and in moving from mere neighbourhood to goodneighbourliness and friendship, local analysts note.

A statement by the representative of the Soviet Government that, in accordance with the wish of the Turkish side, the Soviet Union would increase the supply of natural gas to Turkey up to 4.5 billion cubic meters was greatly welcomed here.

During the visit the two sides discussed the Soviet Union's technical assistance in the construction of tube railways in Ankara and Istanbul and in the modernisation of Turkish railways, the ANATOLIA News Agency points out.

Turkish firms will participate in building 22 light- and food-industry facilities in the Soviet Union.

Further Reportage

WA0708133490

For reportage from Turkish media on the visit to Turkey by Lev Voronin, first deputy chairman of the Council of Ministers, including his talks with Turkish officials, please see the Turkey section of the 7 August West Europe DAILY REPORT and subsequent issues.

New Soviet Ambassador to Belgium Appointed

PM0708180390 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 4 Aug 90 Morning Edition p 8

[Unattributed report: "Chronicle"]

[Text] The USSR president has appointed Nikolay Nikolayevich Afanasyevskiy as USSR ambassador extraordinary and plenipotentiary to Belgium.

Claims of KGB Role in Shooting of Pope Revived

LD0708115290 Moscow TASS in English 1125 GMT 7 Aug 90

[By TASS news analyst Yevgeniy Babenko]

[Text] The French LE QUOTIDIEN DE PARIS newspaper has attempted to breathe new life into old allegations about the KGB's involvement in the attempt on the life of Pope John Paul II on May 13, 1981 in the Vatican. In spring of 1983 THE LOS ANGELES TIMES wrote that the Central Intelligence Agency is confident that neither the Bulgarians nor the Soviet Union were involved in the assassination attempt.

Later Bulgarian citizen Sergei Antonov stood trial in Rome.

No sooner had Turkish neo-fascist Ali Agca, the assassination's mastermind, who was a "witness" at the trial, mentioned his "Eastern connections" than journalists rushed to the telephones, eager to circulate the sensation.

Times have changed. Agca's revelations have long been forgotten. Agca himself is behind bars. Sergei Antonov, a free man, is in Bulgaria. Why should anybody refer to the allegations again?

The timing for the publication in LE QUOTIDIEN DE PARIS is not accidential. Debates on the investigation of terrorist crimes and on the activity of "parallel structures" of Western services are conducted in many Western countries.

A resolution suggested by deputies from the Italian Communist Party was endorsed following debates in the Italian Parliament.

The Rome cabinet pledged itself to submit to a special parliamentary commission investigating terrorist activities all information regarding "parallel structures" that might have operated within the military security service.

All the information about "parallel structures" is contained in documents of special parliamentary commission investigating the activities of Masonic Lodge P-2, the resolution says.

Another resolution endorsed by Italian deputies points to the need for intensifying contacts with allied countries and with East European countries so as to reveal by joint efforts the possible connection of international terrorism.

But not everybody so wishes. This is why allegations about the KGB's involvement in the assassination attempt appear.

Venice 'Pentagonal Forum' Discusses Cooperation

PM0708200990 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 3 Aug 90 Morning Edition p 4

[Dispatch by correspondent M. Ilinskiy: "Five on San Giorgio"]

[Text] Rome—The first meeting of the five heads of government and foreign ministers (from Italy, Austria, Yugoslavia, Hungary, and Czechoslovakia), which political and journalistic circles have dubbed the "pentagonal initiative," took place 1 August 1990 on the initiative of Italy and under its chairmanship in an ancient castle on the Venetian island of San Giorgio, where many important international conferences and symposiums are held.

From the documents presented at a news conference by Italy's Foreign Ministry: The purpose of the meeting is to promote the development process and prevent the region of Central and East Europe being turned into a zone of instability; to create a model of economic, social, and cultural cooperation...

Observers comment that the formulation of the new political, economic, and cultural structure does not convey any fundamentally new idea or constitute competition with the "Common Market" but accords with the spirit and letter of the Helsinki accords. Europe already knows new "geometric figures," and the "pentagon" is one of them, ready, in time, to extend the number of its "angles and sides" and to make a contribution to the architecture of the common European home. It was emphasized at the news conference that, in this, the chief task is not just economic assistance for one or several participants but equitable cooperation both between countries and throughout the region, the development of cultural ties, and the resolution of the problems of national minorities.

The new model of regional cooperation proposed by "the Five" is based on ideas advanced more than 10 years ago. Officially they were proclaimed last November. But their practical implementation began only in May this year at the level of experts.

The participants in the San Giorgio forum adopted two documents designed to form the basis for the further development of cooperation among the five countries.

The sides reached a conclusion on the need to coordinate their positions on various questions being discussed within the framework both of NATO and the EC and of the Warsaw Pact and CEMA, as well as other international organizations in whose activity they participate. In particular, the countries of the "pentagonal initiative" expressed the intention to come out from united positions within the CSCE framework.

In the so-called "working program," the meeting participants outlined specific joint regional development projects in various spheres designed for the period from 1990 through 1992. They include improving the network of roads and railroads and telecommunications systems, combating environmental pollution, exchanging advanced technologies, creating joint ventures, cooperating in the spheres of information science and scientific research, holding exhibitions and fairs, and making cultural exchanges.

The meeting participants expressed readiness to expand cooperation with other new regional intergovernmental structures in Europe—with the Baltic and Balkan groups of states, for example.

"What is behind this?" a Japanese journalist sitting beside me at the news conference asked. This question is not surprising. Commenting on the results of the pentagonal forum in Venice, local commentators point out that the problem of the unification of the two German states, in particular, left a noticeable mark on the meeting's work. Many believe that the "alliance of the five" has been conceived as a kind of "counterweight" to the future united Germany with its huge economic and political weight in Europe.

Thatcher Shortens U.S. Visit, Returns to London

PM0708114590 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 7 Aug 90 Second Edition p 4

[Dispatch by correspondent A. Lyutyy: "London's Position"]

[Text] London, 6 Aug—Margaret Thatcher has made a decision to curtail the schedule of her U.S. visit in connection with the extraordinary situation in the Near East. The British head of government will fly to London today to personally head interdepartmental conferences in connection with the development of the Kuwaiti-Iraqi crisis.

Among Western states Britain, together with the United States, has taken the toughest stand on Iraq's aggression against Kuwait. This is connected not least with the steadily worsening relations between London and Baghdad, as well as with the important interests that Britain has in Kuwait. It has become known that the puppet regime in Kuwait has, to all intents and purposes, taken hostage 35 British advisers, who have been taken to Baghdad. Although many observers regard this hostage-taking as a preventive measure against the imposition of economic sanctions by London, the government has nonetheless decided not to yield to blackmail. Speaking in Aspen (Colorado, the United States) yesterday, M. Thatcher called on the UN states to establish a "total economic embargo" against Iraq unless it withdraws its troops. Yesterday, in accordance with a collective decision by the EC, London imposed a ban on oil imports from Kuwait and Iraq. Earlier it had frozen these two states' deposits in British banks.

Some members of the Kuwaiti royal family arrived in London yesterday under conditions of very strict security measures. Anti-Iraqi demonstrations are continuing in the streets of the British capital. Calls for the urgent recall of parliamentarians from the summer vacation to discuss the situation in the Near East are being heard among a number of members of the House of Commons.

Latin America & Caribbean

Havana Embassy Official on Trade With Cuba

PM0808102490 Paris LIBERATION in French 4-5 Aug 90 p 10

[Interview with Boris Sokolov, economic affairs counselor at USSR Embassy in Havana, by Jean-Francois Fogel in Havana; date not given]

[Text] Havana—[Fogel] We are constantly reading that the Soviet Union is no longer sending supplies to Cuba. What is the state of bilateral trade?

[Sokolov] Generally speaking, contracts are being fulfilled. With regard to 1990, I would say that 90 percent are being fulfilled judging from the first half of the year, despite the current situation in the Soviet economy. With regard to timber, 80 percent of our commitments should be covered, and 90 percent with regard to oil.

[Fogel] Are the Cubans serving you as well?

[Sokolov] Things are easier for them: The list of products which we supply to them fills five pages, but their exports to the Soviet Union fill a small paragraph. They include sugar, of course; nickel is arriving although slightly late, and supplies of citrus fruits are exceeding forecasts. On the whole, trade is going well. We have experienced more difficult periods between the two countries in the past. And the year is not over yet.

[Fogel] The five-year agreement between the two countries ends at the end of this year. What trade will there be from 1991?

[Sokolov] The only thing that is really clear is that on 1 January next year our commercial relations will be based on world prices with payment in convertible currency.

[Fogel] The announcement of these rules is apparently a great blow to the Cubans.

[Sokolov] That is a normal reaction. It is obvious that these changes have created anxiety in the negotiations with our partners when our foreign trade minister came to Havana in June.

[Fogel] Will you continue to run trade on the basis of bilateral commitments over a five-year period?

[Sokolov] I cannot make predictions but I think there will be a treaty for 1991 alone—an annual intergovernmental protocol which would not be as broad as the one which existed before. It will only mention the products which the Soviet Government can guarantee, but the main articles will be included.

[Fogel] How will trade be financed? Will it be by loans in convertible currency from the Soviet Union to be added to Cuba's debt of 15 billion rubles?

[Sokolov] It is obvious that trade between the two countries cannot be balanced. The Soviet Union will have to continue to give credit. It is possible that it will be calculated in convertible currency. At all events, this now depends on the Supreme Soviet. From this fall, we can conceive of a budget policy indicating total aid and cooperation spending, not only for Cuba but for the countries which received money from CEMA—Cuba, Vietnam, Mongolia.

[Fogel] Will the Soviet Union buy its sugar from Cuba by a quota system, as the Americans do elsewhere?

[Sokolov] This system exists throughout the world. Everybody tries to achieve a set price for the seller and specific quantities for the buyer. That is essentially what existed in the five-year agreements with Cuba. I cannot forecast what system will be used; that is now being studied. It is possible that it will make use of the commercial tools already existing in the world. At all events, it will not disregard the GATT documents on agricultural products. The Soviet Union wants to be a GATT member and that influences its behavior.

[Fogel] Will you find a solution before 1 January?

[Sokolov] I cannot say. The year 1991 is already approaching. If the negotiations have not been concluded on all points, we will find a way of avoiding a sudden change. Things cannot be changed overnight. And, in the context of world prices, and payments in convertible currency, in a context of opening markets and free trade, the Soviet Union needs Cuba. At all events, we must buy sugar and nickel from somewhere. In a changed world it is in our interests to continue buying them from Cuba.

Comment on Central American Security Conference

Gremitskikh Briefs Journalists

LD0708164990 Moscow TASS in English 1634 GMT 7 Aug 90

[By TASS correspondents Lev Aksyonov, Boris Zverev, and Aleksandr Kanishchev]

[Text] Moscow August 7 TASS—A Soviet spokesman drew the attention of journalists at today's briefing in Moscow to the recent meeting of the commission on Central American security in Costa Rica, which was attended by deputy foreign ministers and military leaders of regional countries. Talks on this issue are held in accordance with the Guatemalan agreement by Central American presidents.

"It is our firm belief," said Yuriy Gremitskikh, "that the tendency towards disarmament and demilitarisation in Central America can and must become one of the underlying factors of its development towards peace, democracy and security. The successful process of political settlement in the region can give the necessary impetus and scope for its implementation."

"Consequently, the above tendency will serve as an important impetus for further advancing this process and finally solving the armed conflict in Central America."

Gremitskikh also noted that the position of Central American countries on regional disarmament issues "deserves comprehensive support from the international community."

"For our part, we are prepared to render the necessary assistance to the efforts of regional countries, UN, OAS and their secretaries-general promoting the attainment of goals and tasks, formulated in the final statement passed by Central American governments at the Costa Rican meeting."

Agreements Termed 'Very Important'

PY0408014290 Moscow in Portuguese to Brazil 2200 GMT 2 Aug 90

[By Leonid Levchenko]

[Text] The Central American Security Commission held a meeting in Costa Rica. The meeting was attended by the vice ministers of foreign relations and defense of the countries of that region.

The Central American Security Commission was created by the Central American presidents in a meeting held in Montelimar, Nicaragua, last April. The agreements reached on security, verification, control, and reduction of armaments in the countries of the region are very important. This initiative which was carried out on the basis of the agreements in Esquipulas II signed on 7 August 1987 was praised by the Soviet Union. The Soviet government expressed its willingness to provide aid in the preparation for possible agreements in this regard.

The meeting of the Central American Security Commission was an important step towards the reduction of armed confrontation and the resumption of cooperation at various levels. In order to achieve greater trust the relations among the countries of the region a recommendation was given to the governments to maintain a reasonable level amount of troops and weapons. The commission advocated the need to create a new mechanism to guarantee security in Central America. This mechanism must take charge of the exchange of information, and coordinate the necessary steps to limit the presence of foreign troops in the region.

I would like especially to refer to this aspect. It is known that the United States has military bases in this region. There are U.S. troops and military bases in Honduras, and of course in Panama where there is a very large number of troops, and where the U.S. Southern Command has its headquarters. Another example in El Salvador where there Are about 100 permanent U.S. military advisers. El Salvador receives about $1 million daily in military aid.

This situation does not go along with the positive changes currently taking place in Central America. The U.S. military aid to some Central American countries only strengthens the position of the militarist sectors which are intransigent to the idea of finding a peaceful solution to the problems of the region. The Salvadoran military sectors are not particularly interested in reducing their military power.

The demilitarization and disarmament of the Central American countries can divert resources for solving economic and social problems. In the Montelimar meeting the Central American presidents reached an agreement that these resources should be used first of all for health and education. Such an agreement can only be praised. But there are comments which should put us on the alert like the one made by Salvadoran Vice Defense Minister Colonel Orlando Cepeda who said that the time has come to strengthen the Central American Defense Council. But why is it necessary to strengthen an organization which was not effective.

Political & Social

KGB Arrests Passer of 'Top-Secret' Materials

PM0708163190 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 7 Aug 90 Second Edition p 6

[Report by the USSR KGB Public Relations Center: "At the USSR KGB"]

[Text] KGB staffers have detained and arrested a scientific associate of one of Moscow's scientific research institutes while attempting to hand over top-secret materials on defense topics to a representative of a foreign state. Criminal proceedings have been instituted under Article 64 of the Russian Soviet Federated Socialist Republic Criminal Code ("Betrayal of the Motherland"). An investigation is being conducted.

Paper Criticizes Democratic Platform Activities

LD0708174690 Moscow TASS in English 1720 GMT 7 Aug 90

[Text] Moscow August 7 TASS—The city party club of the Democratic Platform group in the Soviet Communist Party has stopped operations in Moscow, the RABOCHAYA TRIBUNA newspaper reports today.

The coordinating council focused on preparations for the founding congress of a new political party, leaving rank-and-file party members to play the role of extras. A special instruction authorising withdrawal from the CPSU only in groups and stereotype texts of resignation statements are being circulated.

According to the newspaper, a chase is under way to press people to quit the CPSU in large numbers. Simultaneously, leaflets are being issued in thousands of copies, portraying the CPSU as a party of the "apparatus and directors." The party that is being formed on the basis of the Democratic Platform is described as a "party of ordinary democratic-minded Communists and non-party people."

In actual fact, 45.4 per cent of CPSU members are workers and 11.4 per cent are peasants. Workers make up a mere 6.7 per cent of all participants in the June conference of the Democratic Platform supporters. The peasants of the country were represented only by one person.

"Many Democratic Platform members found themselves faced with the choice: either to complete a stereotype statement on resignation or to carry on useful activity to restructure their party home within the renewed CPSU. The second choice, regrettably, does not always meet with approval," the RABOCHAYA TRIBUNA writes. It points out that a representative section of reformer communists was formed in the Democratic Platform even before the 28th CPSU Congress.

Democratic Platform leaders have embarked on repressions, hounding "dissidents," the newspaper points out. "It is the first time that I have participated in the political struggle, but, as it turned out, the struggle is for power rather than for the popular cause, for group interests rather than rightness," G. Morozov, who was excluded from the party city club, wrote in an open letter to his former comrades on the Democratic Platform.

The leaders of the Democratic Platform wing that remained loyal to the CPSU, are not looking for popularity, the newspaper stresses. They look very critically at matters in the country and the party, even after the 28th CPSU Congress, but they clearly realise that they can achieve progress only if they stay in the party ranks.

"Membership in the CPSU does not provide a special status in society now. It even tends to create some difficulties," said V. Lipitskiy, a leader of the reformer communists section. "One cannot negate a serious moral problem here, which everyone should be free to solve on his own."

'Dangers' Seen in Ultra-Radical Democratic Wing

90UN2520B Moscow LITERATURNAYA GAZETA in Russian No 31, 1 Aug 90 p 2

[Article by B. Kolomiets, head of the sector of democratization and self-government of the USSR State Organization Research Center, and USSR People's Deputy S. Sulakshin: "Start with Yourself! Observations on the Dangers for Democracy on the Part of Democrats Themselves"]

[Text] At the beginning of perestroyka, Ye. Yevtushenko, addressing himself to the leadership of our country which was taking its first steps in the direction of detente, proposed hastening this process by changing the psychology of the relations between the opposing sides: Rather than searching for the mistakes of political opponents, place emphasis on giving a meaning to and recognizing one's own mistakes, and repent these mistakes before the people and people of other countries. We will not assert that the leadership of the country specifically followed the poet's appeal. But it seems to me that no one doubts any longer, other than our hawks and theirs, that a gradual review, although not entire, of one's behavior and errors became one of the main factors in the previously unthinkable successes in our foreign policy and the entire civilized world's trust in it, and NATO's reciprocal steps.

We are confident that a similar policy can be fruitful not only in international affairs. Therefore, we active participants of the Democratic Platform will begin with self-criticism... of the democrats. But more specifically, of the ultra-radical wing of their movement.

With the beginning of perestroyka a majority of the population began to have hopes of obtaining political freedoms and economic benefits that the initiators of changes promised. This was a noticeable effect of the expectation of a "miracle." But the increasing opposition to radical reform on the part of the bureaucratic sector of the apparatus, the personal mistakes of the leaders of perestroyka, the intensified pressure on the new leadership of the country by both the radicals and the conservatives and reactionaries, and the passive expectation of changes among an appreciable part of the people led to the fact that problems began to appear and increase faster than they were being resolved. The first and main negative result of this was society's debilitating emotional spirit, an increase in shortages, profiteering, and crime, lack of confidence in the future, expectations of unemployment, loss of ideals without replacement by new ones, and a sense of powerlessness before the complexity of life.

Under these conditions, to increase the attractiveness of their own programs, some of the aspirants to political leadership are using dishonest methods of feedback control: They are trying to convince the population that the situation is even worse than the population sees it, and to intensify the anger, irritation, and instability in society (and here the extreme left joins easily with the extreme right).

It is apparent that by lowering the population's spirit, which is already low without this, the ideologists of such feedback control inevitably make their own contribution to worsening the condition of the country and its economy. To intensify the action of this reverse communication, even for the sake of the very best of objectives, is one of the most dangerous methods of political campaigning, which is leading us to the edge of political stability beyond which there can be anarchy, civil war, and reactionary dictatorship.

The quality of the personality and activity of M.S. Gorbachev is a constant object of one-sided and distorted assessments by both the ultraradicals and the reactionaries. The country ended up in a unique situation with respect to its new leader: For the first time in many decades our leader has the highest prestige in the entire civilized world, but is relatively low among his own fellow citizens. Of course, the president and general secretary has not yet fully torn himself away from the "faction of the apparatus" that reared him; he has not yet stood "above," and he has not freed himself from the illusory obligation to be the "court of last resort." But it is impossible not to see the dynamism of this policy, and not to realize that M.S. Gorbachev is being pushed toward exhausting the resources for liberalization of the regime.

For decades the country publicly praised and showered awards on its successive general secretaries, who were not able to stop its drift toward catastrophe. But now many of us are quite cool toward the leader who, with all of his contradictions, has become so bold as to explain to us where we are drifting, and who has proposed a new course for us. Of course, after decades of a cult, this coolness is understandable. But with such contrasts, are we not creating a favorable soil for those who, scolding ungrateful fellow citizens, will seek ways to the heart of the president and argue that he has to use the whip until such time as we are transformed into a self-organizing society?

The energy and frenzy with which the ultraradicals are pouncing on Gorbachev sometimes create the impression that they are overwhelmed by vengeance. It is possible to understand N. Andreyev and such like—they have something to be vengeful for—but when the feeling of vengeance moves the democrats...

With their attacks on the president the ultraradicals are making an appreciable contribution to the maintenance of tension and conflict between the Interregional Group, the Democratic Platform, and Democratic Russia on the one hand, and Gorbachev and his comrades on the other. Therefore, the latter frequently have to seek the support of the conservative part of the apparatus. For many ultraradical democrats do not hear the direct appeals made to them by E.A. Shevardnadze for a consensus, and his mention of the fact that democratic revolutions frequently suffered defeat because the democratic forces, which were close in their strategic aims but unable to come to an agreement on tactical questions, were crushed by a united reaction.

Incidentally, we see one of the reasons for the drama of both the Bolsheviks before the revolution and the contemporary ultraradicals in the fact that, while barring the former conservative leadership from participation in governing society, they did not comprehend the real complexity of this governing. The building of a new society seemed to them to be a simple task: The main thing was to take up serious battle, and then we will see. But a majority of the ruling parties of capitalist countries put this pedagogy into practice a long time ago, they "educate" the opposition with work in the government and legislative organs. This kind of pedagogy is directly related to the contemporary tactic of consensus.

However, as the Constituent Congress of the Communist Party of Russia showed, such a level of realization even of one's own interests, not to mention consensus with the opposition, remains still unattainable for an appreciable part of a faction of the party apparatus, the secretaries of many oblast party committees, and the bureaucratic part of the party leadership. This faction of the party monopolized authority within the party, and recently suppressed any encroachment on this monopoly with the full force of the state, repressive, and ideological apparatus. In this connection the factionalism of the Democratic Platform looks ridiculous next to the monopolistic, authoritarian-oligarchic faction of the CPSU apparatus with a 72-year length of service.

The obvious display of factionalism and the strength of the conservative part of the apparatus at the first USSR Congress of People's Deputies nudged the radical-democratic people's deputies toward the organization of blocs and factions. Moreover, for the support and development of the democratic shoots that are finally growing in the CPSU, for the restoration of CPSU authority in our contemporary society, while at least one faction exists in it, especially a faction of the apparatus, one more must exist as a minimum that is based on the alternative Democratic Platform. In our opinion, the course of the 28th congress corroborated the fact that such factionalism is only of benefit to the CPSU and the country. One can be confident that, after the announcement at the 28th congress of the separation of the Democratic Platform from the CPSU, new emerging democratic movements and structures will also develop and crop up.

A realization of the new complexity and uniqueness of the CPSU political structure that is evolving—realization by the reformers of M.S. Gorbachev, the initiator of perestroyka, the conservative part of the faction of the apparatus and progressive groups and factions, and the main mass of rank-and-file members of the CPSU who have defined their position—is absolutely necessary for a sober analysis and elaboration of the tactics of all these political forces, and for restraint from unreasoned and irresponsible actions on the part of both the ultraradicals and the conservatives.

The condition of our country, which is saturated with underground, surface, and underwater nuclear missiles and projectiles and nuclear electric power stations, requires special caution in the actions of political forces and of their leaders. Therefore, in addition to the criteria of success in democratization, the economy, ecology, and culture, it is absolutely necessary to take into account, at a minimum, the criteria of political stability as well. Without an assessment and forecast of the reserve of stability, we do not become aware of the total danger of an orgy of political passions, political speculation, and the danger of spontaneous or purposeful intensification of malice and tension in society. As a result, we can completely and unexpectedly lose not only that which we have already achieved in the sphere of political freedoms, but we can end up in conditions that are immeasurably worse than before perestroyka. It is precisely this prospect that compels us to seek compromises with all forces; partly with the apparatus as well.

It already became apparent with the publication of the CPSU Central Committee Platform that the progressive part of the leadership of the party was able to take a new step in the direction of democratization of the party and society—to the extent that it had the strength. Theoretically a real opportunity arose for a rapprochement of the official positions of the party leaders with the positions of the democratic movements and factions in the CPSU.

In accordance with normal logic, it was possible to expect reciprocal steps toward a consensus on the part of the radicals. But the first success of the Democratic Platform very likely inspired and stirred some of them up, and they decided to act on the principle "strike while the iron is hot." Others, by virtue of specific personal motives, were intimidated by the prospect of a rapprochement of democratic forces in the party and immediately switched to a tactic of "consensus on the horizon." For a forecast of the highly probable consequences of such a tactic it is useful to recall the experience of Polish "Solidarity" in 1981.

Evidently, proceeding from such a tactic of "consensus on the horizon," a part (fortunately, an insignificant one) of the ultraradical leaders of the Democratic Platform at the beginning of this year asserted that the most undesirable outcome of the 28th CPSU Congress would be a consensus on the basis of the program of radical democratic reorganizations in the party and society.

An amazing standard: The more steps the progressive wing of the party and the country is able to take in the direction of consensus, democratization, and a market, the more democratic and radical the Gorbachev center becomes, and the more frantic the criticism of the ultraradicals against it becomes.

Theoretical weakness must be placed among the shortcomings of our movement, which is natural for a social movement that has existed for about a year. The country's actual problems have been lost sight of to one degree or another. We have still not proposed developed programs in the ideological sphere, international relations, or in the sphere of morality, culture, and education. Some of the supporters of the Democratic Platform turned out to be theoretically and methodologically defenseless in the face of the complexity of society's current problems, and not always capable of critically interpreting the ideas and estimates of the disputing parties.

The obvious advantages of the market that have been realized in the West distract many of us from its dangers. It is not only a matter of the stream of primitive pornography and the cult of violence that is corrupting society. A return to the bosom of a market economy, the saturation of the market with commodities, and the approach to a level of prosperity of "semideveloped" capitalist countries in five or 10 years is an important objective which, God grant, will be fulfilled. But as this objective is presented it can cause a feeling of inferiority among a majority. Are we ready for this kind of a turn?

At the 28th congress, the Democratic Platform declared a division of the CPSU and the formation of a new party. Along with massive organizational and legal problems in the process of the division of the social organization there also arises the problem of the political training, civilization, and intellectual saturation of the new party. A measure of decency must be maintained, and personal and public relations must be preserved.

Coming out of the swamp and grime of the times of the cult of personality and stagnation, not many of us are spiritually clean. So that there is no end to work in our own cleansing, and consequently also in the strengthening of the democratic movement. And we have to start with ourselves.

Commentary Praises Gorbachev-Yeltsin Cooperation

*PM0808101590 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian
7 Aug 90 Second Edition p 1*

[Yegor Gaydar commentary under the rubric "What People Are Talking About": "Alliance in the Name of Reform"]

[Text] The chances of success for the economic transformations in our country probably never seemed as illusory as they did in July this year. The Union government, which was feverishly working on a new version—the fourth in seven months—of the program for deepening the reform, was patently losing the ability to implement its own concepts. The newly formed Russian Government had put forward a set of interesting economic proposals whose implementation requires very close cooperation with Union organs of management.

Without unity of action between the Union and Russia, a further deepening of the economic crisis was practically inevitable. However, hopes that their efficient cooperation could be ensured seemed illusory. The burden of accumulated contradictions and of mutual resentments between the leaders, and the inertia of confrontation were too great. When an acute struggle for control over the banking system began in the middle of the month, the danger of deepening contradictions reached its apex.

In this situation, USSR President M.S. Gorbachev and B.N. Yeltsin, chairman of the Russian Soviet Federated Socialist Republic Supreme Soviet, displayed a high sense of responsibility and political flexibility and managed to break the confrontational trends and conclude a political alliance in the name of deepening reform. Instead of elaborating different versions in parallel and setting them up against each other, thereby reducing to naught the chances of any sensible actions, they agreed to closely coordinate efforts on preparing a program for the transition to a market economy. Naturally, work on it presupposes active participation by representatives of all the Union republics.

The working group that has been formed for these purposes includes people of very different ages and positions. But all who will work on the new concept are united by high professionalism, a sober view of the processes under way in the economy, and the ability to renounce dogmas in the quest for ways out of the crisis in the national economy. They are like-minded with regard to principled questions.

It seems that by 1 September 1990 the country really will possess a well-elaborated, serious, integral document opening up prospects to radicalize the reform and to stabilize the economy.

If the political alliance which has given a boost to the elaboration of this concept remains sound, it is possible to hope that the serious political and economic obstacles which will inevitably arise in the way of its implementation will be overcome.

Arms Handed In 6 Aug, Seized in Armenia

*LD0708114190 Moscow TASS in English 1122 GMT
7 Aug 90*

[By TASS correspondent Aleksandr Borisov]

[Text] Moscow August 7 TASS—A total of 138 firearms were turned in voluntarily in the Soviet Union on Monday, including 61 in Azerbaijan, 44 in Belorussia and 22 in Russia, a Soviet Interior Ministry spokesman told TASS.

The ministry has no information about surrendered arms from Armenia, where extremists continue to seize arms. On August 6, an armed group burst into the Yehegnadzor district Interior Ministry Department and seized three pistols. They were returned later in the day.

On August 5, an unidentified criminal ambushed a military school student and seized a submachine gun. He fired four shots, mortally wounding the student, and disappeared. An investigation has begun.

Lack of Response to Arms Decree Deplored

*PM0808115290 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian
8 Aug 90 Second Edition p 1*

[Article by Georgiy Ovcharenko under the rubric "What People Are Talking About": "With Hope and Anxiety"]

[Text] The country awaits with hope and misgivings the events of the next 24 hours: Tomorrow brings the expiration of the term set by the presidential decree on the disbandment of armed formations not provided for by the USSR Constitution and the voluntary surrender of unregistered weapons.

Unfortunately, it can already be said today that the call for humanity and prudence that permeates the demand to lay down arms and stop the bloodshed has not met with support from those who are whipping up criminogenic tension in the country. MVD [Ministry of Internal Affairs] press center reports do not include a single instance of self-disbandment by an armed formation, and only a few dozen guns have been voluntarily surrendered. In other words, for the moment the implementation of the president's decree is being blocked.

In a number of regions, in Azerbaijan for instance, they maintained that they have no unlawful armed formations or weapons anyway. And that is after the destruction of the Soviet-Iranian border in the Nakhichevan ASSR [Autonomous Soviet Socialist Republic] and after the real warfare in regions bordering on Armenia. According to the latest USSR MVD figures, a small group of militants of the Azerbaijan People's Front in Dzhalilabadskiy Rayon alone has 40 pistols, six automatic weapons, and more than 600 rifles in its possession. So there are more than enough unlawfully held weapons in that republic. And they could start shooting with these weapons at any moment.

The situation is equally dangerous in Armenia. This year alone, criminals there have seized 6,700 items of weaponry, including 1,250 automatic weapons. And in these conditions the republic parliament, as we have already reported, is, contrary to the USSR Constitution, suspending the operation of the presidential decree not only on Armenian territory, but also in a neighboring sovereign republic—in Nagorno-Karabakh Autonomous Oblast of the Azerbaijan SSR [Soviet Socialist Republic]. And here the motivation for the parliament's decision does not stand up to criticism. For instance, the deputies stated that until new organs of power are formed, the implementation of the decree could lead to senseless bloodshed. At the same time parliament is taking upon itself the stabilization of the situation in the republic, ruling out any outside interference. This does not, as the saying goes, add up. Meanwhile various armed formations in Armenia are sharing out zones of influence by means of shootouts, and are continuing to attack troop subunits and the militia. The latest flagrant instance is the seizure of 165 flamethrowers and the charges for them, which, incidentally, have not yet been found.

These words should not be interpreted as a call for the start of emergency operations by the Internal Troops and Army. Moreover, let me remind you: The implementation of the decree is entrusted first and foremost to local and republican organs of power and their law enforcement institutions. I share the distress of those mothers whose sons are serving today in what we now call explosive regions. I do not want the blood of innocent people to be shed. That is why I support the position of those who propose the stabilization of the situation by political means, through compromises and negotiations, even if that delays the implementation of the decree. There has been enough bloodshed!

But unfortunately the parliament and National Army of Armenia have not yet lifted a hand to impose law and order in the republic. The decree is being ignored in other regions, where the inaction and helplessness of the local authorities only augment the lawlessness.

All the same, I do not think the potential of the decree is yet exhausted, although the term set for its implementaiton expires tomorrow. That potential lies in prudence and responsibility on the part of statesmen and people in all the republics where people with weapons are today calling the tune. It is time that they set aside excessive emotion and separate the wheat from the chaff—the interests of various kinds of political adventurers who have recourse to the help of armed extremists from the interests of the state and its citizens.

There is still time to show prudence...

Concept of Security To Be 'Radically Revised'

PM0708135390 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 7 Aug 90 Morning Edition p 1

[Report by V. Bobrov: "New Approach to the Country's Security"]

[Text] A new concept for the country's security system as a highly important part of the Union treaty that is being elaborated was discussed on 6 August at the USSR Supreme Soviet under the leadership of USSR People's Deputies Yu. Ryzhov and V. Lopatin.

Representatives of the USSR and Union republic academies of sciences and research institutes in Moscow and various regions of the country, along with the USSR Defense Ministry Institute of Military History, took part in the meeting.

"Security of the individual is the first principle of universal security," Academician Yu. Ryzhov said, opening the meeting. "It alone can predetermine society's security, which is inconceivable without defense of citizens' lives, property, and fundamental rights. Then the security of the state is possible; this implies defense of the country's sovereignty and territorial integrity, the inviolability of its borders and constitutional system, and defense of the interests of its citizens and society abroad."

The purely military understanding of the state's security, which took shape in our country over a long period, needs to be radically revised. Today the main threats are emerging in the domestic sphere—that is, the prospect of hopeless economic and technical backwardness, lack of social welfare provisions for people, and the disintegration of our multiethnic state.

But the current mechanisms for ensuring our security are not adapted to eliminate threats of this kind. Everything boils down in the old way to protecting state institutions; that only the might of the Army defends against external threat and only the efforts of repressive organs defend against internal threats. The result was that a country which had accumulated a colossal stock of military might found itself extremely vulnerable with regard to internal problems and crises—political, national, economic, ecological—and to spiritual stagnation and intellectual backwardness.

A new concept for ensuring the country's security must be developed. In the opinion of the deputies and academics, it must include a whole system of interdependent factors designed to defend not only the individual and the republic, but also nationwide interests.

They believe that the new concept for the country's security system must incorporate such key concepts as a definition of the country's vitally important interests, aims, and priorities, an assessment of the real and potential threats to its vital interests, a definition of the resources and funds needed to defend these interests, the elaboration of a strategy to safeguard the country's interests, and the creation of a new political and legal mechanism to put this concept into effect.

USSR people's deputies are proposing to draft the fundamentals of USSR and Union republic legislation on defending security in time for the fall session of the USSR Supreme Soviet. And only then to adopt laws on defense, state security, the KGB, Soviet militia, state secrets, etc., and set up a security council under the head of state, a constitutional organ to handle crisis situations, and a corresponding USSR Supreme Soviet committee.

Ryzhkov Visits Defense, Communications Exhibits

Visits Defense Conversion Exhibit

LD0708221990 Moscow TASS in English 2153 GMT 7 Aug 90

[Text] Moscow August 8 TASS—Soviet Prime Minister Nikolay Ryzhkov visited on Tuesday a sectoral exhibition, "Conversion-90," which opened at the Central Institute of the Information Science and Production Association of the USSR Defence Industry Ministry.

The share of defence industry enterprises in the overall volume of production in the country is constantly growing now. Enterprises of the USSR Defence Industry Ministry will produce more than 11 million roubles worth of consumer goods this year.

These goods range from washing machines, freezers, furniture to sports equipment, watches and photo cameras. On display at the exhibition are also goods of the production and technical purpose for various branches of the national economy.

"Of course, people are eager to see the fruits of military production conversion in the shops, but one should not forget about the great capacity of our consumer market with its scarcity of goods," Ryzhkov said.

"Nevertheless, a great amount of work has already been accomplished in the field of conversion and the tempo should not be slackened. If two years ago the share of military products in the defence industry amounted to 65 per cent and of civilian output—to 35 per cent, this correlation should be reversed by the year 1995."

Ryzhkov said that a document on conversion was elaborated and is under discussion in the Presidential Council.

Also on Tuesday, Ryzhkov visited an exhibition at the USSR Communications Ministry. It featured samples of home-made radio and televison equipment and miscellanous instruments designed to ensure reliable and high-quality communication.

The exhibition organisers took pride in up-to-date cable communications systems displayed at the show. Foreign firms have learnt to use glass fibre instead of costly materials for their production. This type of communication can successfully compete with satellite communication, obviating the need to launch into orbit new space probes.

Home-made glass fibre systems have become a reality at long last. A section of the exhibition features these systems in use rather than experimental samples. The long-distance communication line using glass fibre will link Minsk and Leningrad next year.

Comments on Consumer Goods

LD0808101690 Moscow Television Service in Russian 1700 GMT 7 Aug 90

[From the "Vremya" newscast]

[Text] Today Nikolay Ivanovich Ryzhkov visited enterprises of the USSR Ministry of Defense and the USSR Ministry of Communications.

[Begin recording] [Correspondent L. Elin] The process of conversion is under way at the majority of the enterprises of the Ministry of Defense. For example, consumer goods account for over a third of their production now and their output has increased 1.5 times recently. In the institute for information and technical and economic reasearch of the industry, Comrade Ryzhkov was shown the specimens of production of the defense industry. Truck tractors, tractors for garden plots, and a range of mining equipment are manufactured instead of tanks. And this is a new car manufactured by the Izhevsk Association. A whole range of sewing and washing machines to make housewives envious is shown here, too. [video shows Ryzhkov and officials looking at these items]

It is a pity, however, that in spite of a marked increase in production all these things can only rarely be found in our shops. The chairman of the Council of Ministers spoke about the need to increase the pace while preserving the high quality characteristic of the Ministry of Defense.

I was astonished to find out, for example, that the industry's enterprises produce about 40 percent of the refrigerators and half the bicyles in the country. Apparently, this half of the whole is not very big. This year, defense industry staff are to master the production of over 200 new items, including for medicine. A question was raised with the chairman of the country's Council of Ministers about the need to put the production of such devices on the same level as consumer goods, otherwise taxes will make their production unprofitable for factories.

Later Nikolay Ivanovich Ryzhkov visited the permamently open exhibition of the USSR Ministry of Communications, a department without which one cannot imagine our everyday life. There were television sets, telephones, and switching systems. Comrade Pervyshin, minister of communications, said that output of TV sets—and they are manufactured by three other ministries, too—has grown by nearly 15 percent. The demand, however, has not been met. And here is a new switching system developed together with French specialists. With the same capacity, its weight is 100 tonnes less, whereas its range of user services is greater. Nikolay Ivanovich Ryzhkov was shown a new high-resolution television system, which we are going to use during the Barcelona

Olympics, and a new Soviet video camera for journalists, TZhK. Dmitriy Serebryakov tried to work with it. All the studios in the country are desperate to get such cameras. [video shows Ryzhkov being shown around the exhibition by Pervyshin; various electronic devices; a man filming with the aforementioned camera]

The minister has said very interesting things about the available means of communication and about consumer goods production. But we all know that, evidently, all this is in short supply. And in this aspect, it is interesting to learning your view on how the Council of Ministers and the State Planning Committee are going to subsidize the development of communications facilities.

[Ryzhkov] Our task is to ensure that part of the resources be earmarked for this development. On the whole, we think that we are short of goods. We spoke about that today, that there is a catastrophic shortage of them, although the pace we have adopted now is high enough. But I think that, after all, communications is the weakest link in our everyday life. Look, you saw written on the poster now that we have 37 telephones per 100 households. In my view, we should proceed along two paths. The first is to develop the latest advances, something we are studying and showing interest in, and the second involves the scale; that is, mass production. This issue has to be tackled, so that at least by the year 2000, as he [turning to Pervyshin] has written in calculations here, each family should have a telephone.

[Elin] and then (?high quality) is quickly repaid.

[Ryzhkov] Absolutely. I do not even mention the new communications devices that we saw which make it possible for each individual or a household to install a special aerial and to receive a specific number of programs, as is done in other countries. I think that it is our task to develop communications in a very serious way. After all, we are lagging behind in this field.

[Elin] So help will be given?

[Ryzhkov] Yes.

[video shows example of telephones, and an aerial dish marked "Astra"] [end recording]

Visits Communications Ministry

PM0808141990 Moscow KOMSOMOLSKAYA PRAVDA in Russian 8 Aug 90 p 1

[Untitled, unattributed report]

[Text] Yesterday N.I. Ryzhkov visited the USSR Ministry of Communications. The premier devoted special attention to the trans-Soviet line project—part of a worldwide digital communications ring. A fiberoptic cable is already being laid on the first section of this line from Minsk to Leningrad.

Gives Interview on Exhibitions

LD0708224490 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1411 GMT 7 Aug 90

[Text] [Announcer] Comrade Ryzhkov, chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers, familiarized himself today with an exhibition called Conversion-90 which was organized by the Ministry of Defense Industry, and an exhibition devoted to the state and development of communications facilities at the country's Ministry of Communications. Our special correspondent Tatyana Chemodanova reports:

[Chemodanova] I am at the Institute of Scientific and Technical Information of the Ministry of Defense Industry. On display are medical and consumer equipment, refrigerators, washing and sewing machines, vacuum cleaners, and many other things that are in such short supply today. All this has been produced at plants of our military-industrial complex in the conversion program. The head of the Soviet Government, Nikolay Ivanovich Ryzhkov, following a tour of the exhibition, gave an interview specially for the "Mayak" program.

Nikolay Ivanovich, there is much talk and much expectation. When will conversions start working, when will our markets be full of the necessary goods which we have seen today—consumer goods, medical equipment, and in general the things we are now lacking?

[Ryzhkov] I came here specially today in order to see with my own eyes, as they say, how preparations are going and the start of our conversion. I think that what has been done over the past two years by the defense industry is a great deal of work, because what we have seen needs preparation; the people who previously were engaged in manufacture and design of weapons need to be retrained. Today they need to be working on washing machines or some other machinery. This also takes time, so the fact that we made the decision to link up our defense complex—that most vast scientific and production potential—for production of consumer goods is, I think, absolutely right.

We would, of course, like to do everything more quickly, to get things on the shelves, but the minister here and Comrade Igor Sergeyevich Belousov have reported that the rates of growth of production of consumer goods over seven months are 24 percent, even around 25 percent; that is, we have never known such rates. But, unfortunately, the market is very capacious, and we are late in getting everything done. Evidently we need another year or two of such rates and I think that what is being manufactured today in tens of thousands must appear on the market in hundreds of thousands. Then everything will be available.

[Chemodanova] Nikolay Ivanovich, how do you view the fact that we now have a transfer to production of consumer goods; will that not mean that the brains of high technology potential which have been created over many years will be scattered?

[Ryzhkov] I think that everything will depend on the machinery they are making. If they make complex machinery, if that machinery is interesting to an engineer, to a specialist, then of course they will not be scattered and many models or much equipment which is now being made can only be made by very educated people and highly qualified workers. So everything will depend on precisely how the process develops of manufacturing complex consumer goods machinery. I understand that over a certain period at the beginning, when our people are still wondering what to do, perhaps some of them may find themselves involved in output which could be made—let us say—by less well-equipped factories or institutes, but this must be seen as costs. In fact what we are seeing is complex machinery.

This is why it will be interesting, in my view, for these enterprises. It is encouraging that a great deal of ground work has been done for them, and very well, too, and mass production must be put in motion as rapidly as possible. We looked, for example, at washing machines. I remember that a year ago we criticized the minister responsible very strongly because few sewing machines are manufactured in the country. But now we feel that manufacture has got underway, and you drew attention to one subtlety, namely that everywhere two prices are given.

[Chemodanova] Yes, I wanted to ask about something in that connection: Won't our goods be expensive; won't even our rather primitive goods like saucepans be costly; won't the price be higher than the retail price? It probably won't be, because it is disadvantageous for any factory to produce this sort of output.

[Ryzhkov] Speaking objectively, though, every factory will of course strive to earn as much as possible on these goods, because they are all operating for profits, they use the profit to secure their social development and the manufacturing development of their enterprises. But it is our task to create—and we are indeed introducing—every possible sort of restriction, or at least economic normatives and laws which would first and foremost compel people to think about increasing output of goods, about quality; not only because of the desire to make use of the price factor. As you know, a law has been adopted for 1991 to this end. There are restrictions just on profitablity.

All this has been done only in order to ensure that prices do not rise sharply, although many people do not understand why we are doing this, many people are making criticisms that specific ceilings are being set. We are afraid that given such monopoly manufacture of goods and output, unless there are some sort of economic limiters, prices could indeed rise very sharply. Our task is therefore to have specific limits here, and we are indeed creating these specific limits. Our task is also to grant the opportunity for manufacturing output without fleecing the people, as the saying goes.

[Chemodanova] Nikolay Ivanovich, how will development of communications help the development of Soviet radio and television?

[Ryzhkov] I think that what Comrade Pervyshin has just reported—more than a half, if not three-fourths pertains specifically to radio and television and it is, in my view, only a third that is directly linked with communications in the old, classical sense, such as telephones, the post office, and so forth. That is why the start that has already been made and the mass production of output that is now beginning should, in my view, exert a very serious influence on television.

[Chemodanova] When, realistically, will it be possible for us to increase the number of channels?

[Pervyshin] We have just been looking at a television journalism complex. We have seen a radio relay line which makes it possible to solve all these tasks from further afield. Standing here, too, is a camera of high definition television which we are working on and in 1992 we wish, by our own means, to transmit the Olympic Games from Barcelona, using the high definition television. We are working on creating both television and radio broadcasting transmitters. Once two new satellites have been launched, we will be able to make it possible for nearly every republic to make, transmit, and receive its own, national program.

[Ryzhkov] This will be next year, is that not correct?

[Pervyshin] We will begin to do it starting next year. As for such areas as Kazakhstan and the central part of Siberia, with the aid of today's satellites we already intend to help solve this task for these large regions. That is to say, everything we are doing we are doing for radio and television communications.

And indeed I now turn... [indistinct interruption] I'll come to that presently, but Nikolay Ivanovich here has given a better answer than I could have devised for myself, that there will be assistance in this respect. [indistinct interjections]

Nikolay Ivanovich, if you please, and indeed you journalists, look at the way in which we are making use of issues connected with conversion. First and foremost we are dealing with industries where the requirement for control systems is not decreasing, it is being slowed down, it is virtually without growth. Our military equipment remains at the current level. We are obtaining the entire gain through the construction of new works that have been envisaged and which we are now redesignating, works that we have built in accordance with the armaments program. We have developed them on the test bench and we are starting to produce them: we will be making mobile communications systems using all radio means both in our own enterprises and jointly with the (?Telenok) firm in Voronezh.

[Ryzhkov] If three or four years ago, someone had told me that we will be talking about associations, about concerns, about banks of certain kinds that will be set up by interests, I would not have believed it myself. Then we say that the economic reform has not given us anything. That is not at all true. It has given us the possibility of reaching the stage we have reached today. People have started to think in economic terms. I remember five years ago when I became chairman of the Council of Ministers, at the end of September it will be exactly five years, and the sessions of the Presidium that I held at that time. It's a pity that we didn't record them at the time.

It was like the Stone Age. In those days no one thought in economic terms. Everyone said the plan is there. Produce the plan and that's all there is to it. But what was going on there? What was the profitability? What was the economic benefit? Self-recoupment? Self-financing? We didn't even know those words. I tell you, we could hardly bring ourselves to pronounce the word profit. Of course, therefore, alongside the advances there have been in technology and what we have been talking about, conversion has provided the opportunity to involve our country's very best forces.

Of course, great changes have taken place in everybody's economic thinking—of both directors and managers and ministries. We have begun to think in a completely different way.

[Chemodanova] What is happening is not only a discussion in concrete terms but specific action too?

[Ryzhkov] Of course. It is specific action when you see directly what is being done, and it is easier to make decisions later.

[Announcer] "Mayak" told you about the visit by Nikolay Ivanovich Ryzhkov to the Conversion-90 exhibition and an exhibition dedicated to the state of the development of means of communication; it was held in the USSR Ministry of Communications.

Nina Andreyeva on U.S. Newspaper Interview

90US1152A Moscow SOYUZ in Russian
No 27, Jul 90 p 23

[Interview with Nina Andreyeva, leader of the Unity organization, by Sergey Krayukhin, SOYUZ special correspondent, on a NEW YORK TIMES interview with Andreyeva published on 26 June; place and date of interview not given: "The Danger Comes From the Right and Without a Mask"]

[Text] **Coincidences in politics do not occur accidentally. It can hardly be otherwise if one remembers that, in the long run, politics is a struggle for power. Remember how N.A. Andreyeva, a teacher at the Leningrad Chemical Engineering Institute imeni Lensovet, shot to fame after SOVETSKAYA ROSSIYA published her articles on "principles." Let us also remember the occasion when Gorbachev, the leader of perestroyka, on returning from a trip abroad, waged a battle that was one of the first but also one of the most important for glasnost. The perestroyka, where it concerns freedom of thought, was saved.**

N.A. Andreyeva has been fading politically for about two years, but... Some of the delegates of the Russian Party Conference and later of the Constituent Congress were appealing once again for "unity," "consolidation," and "loyalty to ideals"; at the same time other delegates ignored all the formalities and grabbed, as tightly as they could, first the microphone and later the power. It was then, it seems, that many of us sensed the presence of a realistic danger on the right. It became clear that Nina Andreyeva was more than an empty space under the armor of the past, she was an acting force.

We do not want to hear now the indignant voice of a protesting reader. For that reason we want to acquaint you with the interview that N.A. Andreyeva gave to NEW YORK TIMES correspondent Bill Keller. It was published in the 26 June issue of the newspaper. It seemed to us that certain things were unclear in the interview and that was the only reason why our special correspondent Sergey Krayukhin repeated the travel of his American colleague and his material from a Leningrad suburb.

The NEW YORK TIMES Article

(As it turned out N.A. Andreyeva had not read her own interview in the paper. As she was reading it in the presence of our correspondent, she made some comments on it which we publish in italics in parentheses.)

PETRODVORETS, USSR, June 19—An afternoon at home with Nina Andreyeva is an experience of cozy domesticity often interrupted by jarring moments of anachronism.

The white light of a northern Russian summer floods the tiny living room where the chemistry teacher and polemic writer lives. It splashes the geraniums on the window sill, the neat stacks of Marxist reading matter, the little table set for coffee, all homey and familiar.

But then to hear Stalin spoken of with reverence, or the planned economy praised as an achievement of human ingenuity, is, in these days of Soviet transformation, like suddenly spotting a pterodactyl on the wing of your plane, or hearing someone burst into Latin in the subway. *(with respect to this passage N.A. Andreyeva remarked: "This is how they see it and it is their business but they will yet come to change their opinion.")*

Referred to in the Soviet press as "the notorious Nina Andreyeva" since more than two years ago when she published an attack on permissiveness in the era of Mikhail Gorbachev, Andreyeva is the jilted apostle of the Bolshevik true faith.

Her full-page newspaper disputation in March 1988 buoyed hard-liners and seemed to freeze the policy of glasnost for three weeks, until Gorbachev commissioned a sharp rebuttal that assured the panicky reformists that he was still in charge, and it transformed Andreyeva overnight onto a political untouchable.

"I was a curtain-raiser," she says now. "I raised the curtain on something they did not want to see." *("Not 'to see' but to 'reveal,'" corrects Nina Aleksandrovna.)*

From her little Khrushchev-era apartment in this former summering ground of the czarist nobility a few miles from Leningrad, she now watches the struggle for the soul of her party with a mix of bitterness and hope. A Communist Party member for 24 of her 51 years, Andreyeva says she thinks of quitting the party to help form one with a real Marxist-Leninist backbone. *(Andreyeva says that this idea was presented somewhat incorrectly.)*

Then again, after the vigorous anti-Gorbachev language just heard at the Constituent Congress of the new Russian Communist Party, Andreyeva said she was hopeful that a revival was already in the works.

She was not made welcome *("was not made welcome by the United Workers' Front and by the apparatus," says Andreyeva)* at early **meetings** *("initiating congresses"—N. A.)* to plan the Russian party congress—her name is so identified with the dark forces that even ambitious hard-liners feel obliged to disavow her. And she says she fears that the new party has failed to rid its ranks of "revisionists, swindlers, bureaucrats, and corrupt elements."

But she heard satisfying echoes of her own remarks this week in the outcries against free markets, dwindling patriotism, the blackening of Soviet history and the betrayal of communist ideals.

In a telephone interview on Saturday, Andreyeva also welcomed the victory of Ivan Polozkov, her favorite candidate to head the Russian party. *("The author misunderstood me," remarks Nina Aleksandrovna. "I said that one of several leaders might win and among them I mentioned Ivan Polozkov, Boris Gidaspov, and others.")*

"This may lead to the departure from the Communist Party of the so-called democrats and social democrats, those who call for civil peace at the cost of betraying socialism," she said. "It will promote the consolidation of the sincerely Bolshevik forces."

If Andreyeva is slipping to the margins of history, as the polls and election results suggest, she is comforted by knowing she is not going alone. She is now the leader of an organization called Unity, for Leninism and communist ideals, **whose strength she declines to estimate because the local cells in 38 cities and towns, in true Bolshevik fashion, send her no central list of their members.** *("This is incorrect and requires further clarification."—N.A.)*

This group is waiting in the wings to reorganize itself as a neo-Bolshevik party, she said if the new Russian party **fails to arrest the communists' slide toward capitalism.** *("Nonsense, Billy Keller did not understand me."—N.A.)*

There are, moreover, the 15,000 letters—counted, sorted, and filed on the bookshelves alongside the memoirs of every Soviet leader. Most, she says, vindicate her view that the ordinary people are not ready for "bourgeois democracy" and the marketplace.

"There is nothing at all to buy this year," she says, apologizing for the modest offerings on her table and launching **into her indictment of Gorbachev.** *("I was talking about the leadership in general and not about Gorbachev personally," disagrees Nina Aleksandrovna.)*

"Every month it is getting worse. The explanation is that the state-run sector is falling apart, and the black market speculation results in empty shelves in state stores." *(With respect to this passage N.A. exclaims: "What nit-picking!")*

Andreyeva's explanation for the chronic shortages, a view widely repeated in the shops of nearby Leningrad, is that greedy speculators stimulated by Gorbachev's policies are buying goods at subsidized prices and then retailing them at huge markups.

This, she asserts, is aggravated by "real sabotage."

"There are warehouses full of goods being withheld by people who are waiting for the prices to go up," she adds.

The object of all this is to foist free trade, private property, hired labor, and other capitalist notions on a befuddled Soviet public.

"The 'crisis' we see today is specially planned and organized, and not the last violin in this orchestra is played by our democrats," she said.

Andreyeva thinks that state-run system has been sold short. She has never been in the West, but she doubts that it can match the cheap rail pass that takes her by electric train to her job at the Leningrad Chemical Engineering Institute, or the free hospital where her husband is convalescing from a **heart attack.** *("A myocardial infarction"—N.A.)*

His **heart attack**, she claims, is on the heads of those who marked her as some demon of Soviet affairs and led to her husband's **being driven from his job as a department chairman at her institute.** *("He was fired"—N.A.)*

When Andreyeva first met a Western reporter 20 months ago, she was circumspect in assessing Gorbachev. Now she brands him the mastermind of a counterrevolution **in three stages**: the discrediting of Soviet history and "anti-Stalinist hysteria," the creation of a presidency not beholden to the party—"a betrayal of the working people," and now the introduction of private property. *("Two stages, not three."—N.A.)*

Andreyeva **does not like** to be described as a Stalinist, the dictator's name being redolent with unpleasant connotations, but she defends Stalin as a man underestimated. *("'Like or dislike', 'underestimated'—all this is just emotions," disagrees Nina Aleksandrovna. "I am for an* *objective evaluation of a political leader.")* "Stalin was a wise statesman, an extraordinary personality who performed under extremely **complicated** historical conditions," she said. *("Under 'most severe conditions' was what Churchill said," corrected N. Andreyeva.)*

Questions from the SOYUZ correspondent

[Krayukhin] Nina Aleksandrovna, we, as well as probably many of our readers, are interested in the appearance of the Unity group headed by you. What kind of a group is it?

[Andreyeva] We are not a group; we are a sociopolitical movement. It is rather well established by now; it is powerful; it has committees in 65 cities and regions of our country. We know how big these organizations are, but we do not demand members' lists from the chairmen of the Unity committees. The reason being that a simple mentioning of them next to my name can bring trouble to those people.

[Krayukhin] What are the goals of your supporters? Do you think you have any chance of realistically influencing the current political struggle?

[Andreyeva] We aim to revive the true Bolshevism (for some reason they prefer the term "neo-Bolshevism" in the West) under the banner of the All-Union Communist Party of the Bolsheviks-Leninists. Please capitalize the word Bolshevik. It would be nice if all of this could occur within the CPSU, at the 28th congress. If it does not, then a split is inevitable.

[Krayukhin] So, that makes Stalin a true Bolshevik-Leninist also, does it not?

[Andreyeva] When you try to evaluate any political leader you have to examine his actions. Stalin created a superpower out of a backward country, an industrial state out of an agricultural area. A few years after the death of Josef Vissarionovich Stalin, the USSR launched the first satellite into space. In 1953 our country was in third place in the world in terms of scientific and technological progress, and it held one of the last places among the developed countries in alcoholism and divorce rate. You compare this to the current situation....

[Krayukhin] The democracy that became established in our society—is it not progress?

[Andreyeva] Democrats talk a lot about various laws but there has never been greater lawlessness than now. My husband was fired from his job a year and a half ago and nobody could find any article in our laws to defend him. There wasn't even a hearing. As a result—the heart attack and the hospital.

[Krayukhin] What is the role that the Russian Communist Party may, possibly, play to help establish the principles you proclaim?

[Andreyeva] We greatly hope that the Russian Communist Party can revive the true Bolshevism; we are not interested in simply forming yet another republic party. At some time in the past I disagreed with the opinions of the "top"—Popov, Dolgov, Tyulkin, and similar characters at the constituent congress, but not with those of the rank-and-file delegates.

[Krayukhin] That means there is a considerable force behind you?

[Andreyeva] Yes, ours is a just cause and there is a force behind it.

So, you can ponder and make analogies while there is still time for it. Can it be that the star of Nina Andreyeva has risen again, against every law of physics but in total accord with the laws of politics?

Publications To Register With State Committee

LD0708130590 Moscow TASS in English 1248 GMT 7 Aug 90

[Text] Moscow August 7 TASS—The Soviet State Committee on the Press has been given the task of registering the country's periodicals, after the Soviet parliament passed a law regulating the media. Deputy Chairman of the State Committee on the Press Aleksandr Gorkovlyuk described the process of registration.

Under the law, all news organizations should register with the USSR State Committee on the Press by January 1, 1991.

For registration it is enough to state title of the publication, the publishers, giving the language, the address, state how often it will appear and in which number of copies, and the amount and sources of financing. The application should be considered within a month.

Registration will be denied if a news organisation bearing the same name already exists and, naturally, if the new newspaper or magazine intended to issue calls for the forcible overthrow of the existing state system. Calls to propagate war, violence and cruelty, racial, national or religious intolerance, to encroach on the honour and dignity of citizens and their life, the divulging of secrets protected by law or the circulation of pornography, are also deemed incompatible with registration, Gorkovlyuk said.

Publications of the country's political parties cannot be registered until parliament adopts a law on public organisations.

A news organiation will not be registered if there is a dispute between its founders on the right to institute the publication.

Besides the application, organisations or individuals forming a news organisation should provide 2,000 roubles to pay the registration tax. The tariff for the registration of publications to be circulated abroad had not yet been established. This will shortly be done by the USSR Finance Ministry.

Five applications from individuals and about one hundred from organisations were received by the Department of Newspapers and Magazines at the USSR State Committee on the Press by August 7, Gorkovlyuk said.

New Magazine 'MEGAPOLIS' Introduced

LD0708215290

[Editorial Report] Moscow Domestic Service in Russian at 1730 GMT on 7 August carries a three-minute report by correspondent Aleksandr Kuzin from the Center for International Trade in Moscow where a new international magazine, "MEGAPOLIS," has been presented.

Kuzin reports that the magazine was created under the patronage of Mossovet, the International Research Institute of Management Problems, and also with the participation of TASS and APN. The magazine sets out to assist in preventing an ecological catastrophe and to inform its readership about the most significant aspects of sociopolitical life and business. Moreover, says Kuzin, "MEGAPOLIS" sets itself the aim of taking part in various programs for attracting funds for the implementation of joint projects connected, among other things, with resolving questions of a social nature and charity. The editorial's work is based on the principles of market economy, self-financing, self-recouping, and making profit. To this end, the magazine contemplates taking part in major economic projects.

Kuzin also interviews a representative of a West German firm from Cologne which took part in the publication of the first issue. The West German states: "This magazine offers the Western reader the opportunity to take part in debates on various problems associated with life in large cities and also to submit proposals to resolve these problems."

MVD Official Responds to Air Safety Concerns

PM0708153190 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 5 Aug 90 Second Edition p 5

[Article prepared by the USSR MVD Press Center under the "Competent Opinion" rubric: "Aircraft Are Being Hijacked. Why?"—first paragraph is editorial introduction]

[Text] Over the last few days our editorial office has received many questions concerning air safety in connection with the increasingly frequent attempts to hijack civilian aircraft. We asked Militia Major General V. Fomin, deputy chief of the USSR MVD [Ministry of Internal Affairs] Transport Internal Affairs Main Directorate, to answer concerned readers.

[Fomin] Since 9 June this year, six aircraft have been hijacked and taken abroad and another seven attempted hijackings have been stopped on USSR territory. I will cite USSR MVD statistics on this question to provide an objective assessment of these figures. In the period 1978-1988, four civilian aircraft were hijacked and taken abroad, and there were 20 attempted hijackings recorded in the country. In 1989 there were four attempted hijackings, but they were all prevented, not a single aircraft was hijacked. Not a single case was recorded this year either, until 9 June.

Then there was an "outbreak" of hijacking; under existing international law the hijackers' actions can be qualified as terrorist actions. What did the MVD do? Above all, in conjunction with the Ministry of Civil Aviation, preflight checks on passengers have been stepped up. There are a considerable number of attempts to bring prohibited objects aboard. I will give you an example: More than 100,000 attempts to bring prohibited substances and objects aboard, including roughly 300 firearms, were detected in 1989. Checks have now been tightened up.

Aircraft commanders have also begun to act more resolutely. The fact that attempted hijackings have stopped is due to crews' conviction that there were no explosives on board their aircraft. I think that bringing criminals back to the USSR will also have an effect. Three have already been handed over by the Finnish and Swedish authorities—aircraft had been taken to Sweden and Finland. The criminals will appear in court. Criminal proceedings have been instituted in respect of each hijacking or attempted hijacking.

The following detail is indicative: Most air pirates are young people aged roughly 20 or younger. I get the impression that the host of articles on these subjects rouses a false sense of adventure and romanticism in some people, particularly young people. Following the bad example, they repeat the described attempted hijacking. Thus I oppose too much fuss over this subject.

Economic

Government Decides To Establish Currency Market

LD0708113190 Moscow TASS in English 1115 GMT 7 Aug 90

[Text] Moscow August 7 TASS—It was reported here today that the Soviet Government decided on August 4 to establish a currency market. The decision was prompted by preparations for the transition to a regulated market economy open for cooperation with foreign countries.

From January 1, 1991, all enterprises and organisations that are legal entities under Soviet legislation are granted the right to sell and buy based on currency deals in the Soviet Union in the form of inter-bank operations, operations at currency exchanges, auctions and other forms permitted by legislation.

The decision provides for establishing an all-Union currency exchange in Moscow as well as republican and regional exchanges. They will be centers for deals in foreign currency to be concluded at market exchange rates.

The USSR State Bank [Gosbank] is charged with controlling interbank currency operations and operations at currency exchanges.

Together with the Finance Ministry, Vneshekonombank [Foreign Economic Bank], and republican administrative bodies, the USSR State bank will also take measures to support the ruble's rate against foreign currencies.

For this purpose, the above institutions will use currency resources of the Soviet Government and the governments of Union republics as well as funds drawn from foreign banks.

Operations at an all-Union currency exchange are to begin from January 1, 1991.

Survey Shows Popular Support for Market Grows

904A0520A Moscow RABOCHAYA TRIBUNA in Russian 29 Jul 90 p 1

[Article by K. Lvov: "What Do We Think About a Market Economy?"]

[Text] What do we think about a market economy?

Employees at the All-Union Center for the Study of Public Opinion tried to determine this for the first time in late May. A new survey carried out by center employees V. Kosmarskiy, V. Rutgayzer, L. Khakhulina, and S. Shpilko is interesting in that it gives an opportunity to compare the results of the research and thus feel how public sentiment is changing. Some 1,048 people residing in the cities and rural areas of our country took part in the survey. Workers accounted for one-third of those polled.

The supporters of a market economy are increasingly numerous: this is one of the main conclusions based on the work of the sociologists. In May 56 percent favored market relations, whereas in June it was as many as 66 percent. Two-thirds of them insist that we should switch to a market economy gradually, and only one-third believe that this should be done as soon as possible.

In the opinion of the sociologists there are at least two reasons for the reinforcement of "pro-market" sentiments. First, the perception of a majority that the crisis is deepening. There is a reason for the belief of two-thirds of those polled that difficulties in the economy will mount: 15 percent assume that the country will not avoid an economic catastrophe, only eight percent hope that the situation will stabilize, and only three percent of the respondents hope that there will be a considerable improvement.

Second, it appears that the population is beginning to understand better what a market economy is about. More than half of those polled note that a market economy is inconceivable in the absence of small private enterprises as well as the transfer of land to private ownership. One-third believe that the advent of a market economy is unrealistic in the absence of not only small but also large private structures.

The population has also begun to approach the very notion of "private property" with greater tolerance. Thus, one person in two states his consent to working for a private entrepreneur; 27 percent of those polled respond to this question with an unequivocal "no." However this should be qualified: Workers in the state sector are prepared to turn into hired labor only on the condition that their wages will increase substantially.

It appears that doubts about an opportunity to make good money and the threat of being left in front of the gates of enterprises predetermine quite pessimistic predictions. Half of those polled are of the opinion that on the whole the situation of a majority of the common people is likely to deteriorate in the course of our transition to a market economy.

The poll showed that a majority of the population supports the processes of decentralization which have spread through the economy and political life.

One person in two approves of the declaration of the primacy of laws of Russia over Union laws, and one in four condemns it. Three-fourths of those polled view favorably the signing of economic cooperation treaties between republics and oblasts directly without the participation of the center; only seven percent are against.

Far from all people share the belief that the advent of a market economy will provide greater opportunities for increasing their incomes. Slightly under half are convinced that rank-and-file employees will win nothing financially. At the same time, one-quarter state that they see a real danger of losing their jobs.

Social Protection of Citizens Discussed

LD0708182790 Moscow TASS in English 1747 GMT 7 Aug 90

[Text] Moscow August 7 TASS—The transition to market relations is impossible without guaranteeing the social protection of all sections of the population in the Soviet Union, Vladimir Shcherbakov, chairman of the USSR State Committee for Labour and Social Issues, said in an interview published in the latest issue of the PRAVITELSTVENNY VESTNIK (Government Herald) weekly.

He believes that changes for the better have already been achieved as regards major aspects of social protection as is illustrated by two new laws—on pensions and on annual leaves. These are major legislative acts in the social field raising the well-being of Soviet people to a qualitatively new level, he said.

"The financing of centralised measures to raise the people's living standards, endorsed by the Congress of USSR People's Deputies (57.4 billion rubles), is 2.2 times as high as the present expenditures (26.5 billion rubles)," Shcherbakov said. In addition, every region has the opportunity to work out additional aid programs with due regard for its specificity, he added.

Inflation, even a relatively low one, Shcherbakov said, calls for the creation of a special indexation mechanism (an increase in percentage) for current individual incomes of citizens—wages and salaries, pensions, and allowances.

The mechanism will calculate an index of the growth of retail prices of goods and services that are part of the consumer basket. Then the bulk of the population will not feel serious difficulties during the period of transition to a market economy. It is highly important to index not only current monetary incomes of the population but also savings, including those at the savings bank and the state insurance system, the committee chairman emphasised.

Speaking of legal norms for the regulation of wages and salaries, Shcherbakov said that it is planned to abandon direct regulation of the individual or average pay of workers and move on to a taxation method regulating the means for the remuneration of labor.

"The amount of individual pay should be determined only by the personal labor input by the worker and the amount of funds earned by the enterprise for the remuneration of labor.

"The social protection of working people on the part of the state will be ensured by a fixed, guaranteed minimum of pay for all skilled-labour categories of workers," he said.

A whole series of new legal acts is being prepared to guarantee the social protection of all groups of the population during the transition to market relations, Shcherbakov said.

Oil Extraction Agreement With Chevron Announced

LD0208092190 Moscow TASS in English 0715 GMT 2 Aug 90

[By TASS correspondent Murat Buldekbayev]

[Text] Alma Ata August 2 TASS—The U.S. Chevron Corporation and the Kazakh government concluded an agreement to develop and process oil jointly at the Tengiz oilfield, speakers at a news conference here said on Wednesday.

Oil, gas, and hydrogen sulphide are extracted under very difficult conditions on the Tengiz field. "Their mixture lies at a pressure of several hundred atmospheres in the bowels of the earth adjoining the north-eastern part of the Caspian continental sea.

Specialists will use the vast experience amassed by Chevron. This applies both to equipment and technology and to ensuring the safety of workers and the local population.

The agreement also provides for training specialists from among local residents to work at the joint venture.

Representatives of both sides emphasised that the project was long-term.

Agricultural

Progress, Problems of Harvest Reviewed

904B0273A Moscow SELSKAYA ZHIZN in Russian 4 Aug 90 p 1

[Report by Nikolay Osychkin: "Save the Harvest!"]

[Text] The harvesting is now in full swing. According to the USSR State Committee for Statistics, by 30 July grains and legumes (not counting corn) had been cut on 25.5 million hectares and threshed on 22.5 million hectares. This is 22 percent of the sown area. Harvesting has been virtually completed on farms in Azerbaijan, Turkmenia, Moldavia, Crimean, Odessa, Nikolayev, Zaporozhye, Kherson, Donetsk, Dnepropetrovsk, and Rostov Oblasts; Krasnodar and Stavropol Krays; and the Kalmyk ASSR. [Autonomous Soviet Socialist Republic]

Kolkhozes and sovkhozes [collective and state farms] in Belorussia, Lithuania, Latvia, and the Central and Ural economic regions in the Russian Soviet Federated Socialist Republic [RSFSR] have begun harvesting. However, rainy and cold weather in those regions as well as in the Central Chernozem region and the Upper and Middle Volga have increased the areas of lodged grains and are making mowing and threshing extremely difficult. Thus, last year in the Non-Chernozem Zone in the RSFSR, about 30 percent of sown areas had been harvested, but this year the figure is only 0.5 percent while in the Central Chernozem region the corresponding figures are 64 percent and 10 percent. For this reason the overall rate of work remains low. Last week 5.4 million hectares were harvested—half as many as during the same period last year and even somewhat less than the preceding seven-day period. Compared to last year, the lag grain threshing has increased 13 million hectares.

The grain yield per hectare for the grain gathered in during the last week has been 31.8 quintals, including 26.7 quintals for the RSFSR, 39.5 quintals for the Ukrainian SSR [Soviet Socialist Republic], and 14.4 quintals for Kazakhstan. A total of 74 million tons of grain have been threshed, including 17.3 million tons in the last week. A total of 22.3 million tons of grain have been delivered to the grain elevators. That is only 30 percent of what has been harvested. Last week grain unloading declined compared to the previous week even though it would seem that the opposite should be true. The state order for grain sales has been fulfilled by only 26 percent. Farms in the Georgian SSR, Stavropol Kray, Rostov Oblast, and the Kalmyk ASSR have been coping with this. Farms in the Ukraine, Povolzhye, and the autonomous republics of the North Caucasus are called upon to increase grain deliveries.

Sowed and naturally grown grasses have been mown over an area of 50.9 million hectares, which is 8.1

million less than last year. The most serious lagging compared to the corresponding period last year has been permitted at kolkhozes and sovkhozes in the RSFSR and the Kazakh SSR. A total of 47.3 million tons expressed in fodder units of coarse and succulent fodders has been gathered, 8.7 million less than last year.

The state of the harvesting and procurements of grain and other produce was recently the subject of serious discussion at a meeting of the USSR Council of Ministers Presidium chaired by N.I. Ryzhkov. It was noted that a large quantity of grain requires a great deal of attention for its harvesting and storage. Note was made of the poor help in this regard being provided by the enterprises and organizations in cities and workers' settlements. If there is not a major improvement in harvesting and grain procurement in the next few days, great losses of grain and other produce will occur; this cannot be permitted. Only through their joint efforts will the farmers and city dwellers be able to save the grain and the fruits and vegetables and improve food supplies for the population!

During the course of the harvesting work an adverse effect has been exerted by the unsatisfactory supply to agriculture of oils and lubricants, harvesting equipment, and spare parts. In July alone there was a shortfall of 524,000 tons of diesel fuel in supplies for the agro-industrial complex. During the first half of the year shortfalls in supplies of spare parts amounted to 300 million rubles. In Kuybyshev Oblast this was the reason why 1,300 trucks have been standing idle. Consumers in the agro-industrial complex in the Ukrainian SSR have been short 16,000 tires for agricultural machinery. During the first half of the year the Electrotechnical Plant in Komsomolosk-na-Amure failed to deliver 7,000 batteries to the Kazakh SSR, 1,000 to the Belorussian SSR, and 14,600 to the RSFSR Non-Chernozem Zone. In some places vehicle operators have been forced to drive combine harvesters with trailers.

The harvesting and sale of grain to the state are entering a decisive stage. Time is pressing for the farmers and those who have today come from the cities to help them.

Wheat Losses Prompt 'State of Emergency'

LD0708213290 Moscow Television Service in Russian 1700 GMT 7 Aug 90

[Text] The country's peasants have grown 300 million tonnes of grain. But even today, when many regions have not yet started harvesting, losses of wheat have reached 30 million to 40 million tonnes, and only because those who grow wheat have no authority over it. Therefore one has to declare a state of emergency and to distract town dwellers from work and soldiers from service.

The Ministry of Defense will send another 10,000 vehicles with drivers from its pool to carry wheat in the Russian Federation. I recall that servicemen have already carried more than one million tonnes of agricultural cargo.

Harvesting Problems, Agricultural Funding Viewed

LD0708175890

[Editorial Report] Moscow Domestic Service in Russian at 1140 GMT on 7 August carries a 20-minute program in the wake of the RSFSR [Russian Soviet Federated Socialist Republic] Council of Ministers decision on bringing in the harvest which is threatened by a lack of transport, in which studio presenter Nataliya Vartanyan conducts a hook-up between correspondents in Volgograd and Rostov-na-Donu, and Vadim Konstantinovich Khusayinov—head of the department of the foreign economic affairs of the joint-stock commercial Agroprombank [Agro-industrial Bank]—discussing the state of the harvest.

In Volgograd Oblast, 1.5 million tonnes has so far been handed over to the state, but the same quantity again is lying in the open air because of the long-standing lack of closed threshing floors and grain driers. In Rostov Oblast, 3.1 million tonnes has been sold to the state and sales are continuing, but with yields up to 40 quintals per hectare about 15 million tonnes of grain has accumulated on the threshing floors, most of it in the open.

Industrial enterprises in the towns have refused to provide transport this year because of financial autonomy; this is a Union-wide problem. An emergency session of the Rostov Oblast soviet discussed the problems and many enterprises have now started to step up help to the farms. Last year about 40 million tonnes of grain were lost because of lack of storage facilities and transport—approximately the same amount as was imported—and this year it is feared losses will be greater. The Rostov correspondent points out that for decades farmers had been used to all their grain being taken away from them, and so no storage facilities were built. The Volgograd correspondent says that Russian peasants have now been given the freedom to sell 30 percent of their produce to any purchaser and they must now decide how to do this most profitably: barter deals are taking place "and prices—regardless of what Comrade Abalkin will say about it—are set spontaneously, as life dictates. For instance, a load of grain for a load of timber. That is an example of what we mean when we say there should be no intervention, and market relations will inevitably arise of themselves."

Last year farms were granted the opportunity to sell valuable strains of grain to the state for freely convertible currency. According to the Volgograd correspondent, last year the Soviet peasant was paid up to 60 foreign currency rubles for top-quality grain and 40 for lower-quality grain, compared with foreign farmers who got $200 per tonne. Of this sum, Vneshekonombank [Foreign Economic Bank] grabbed 10 percent as did Gosagroprom [State Agro-industrial Committee] for centralized funds, and then there was another $20 for transport and 38 foreign currency rubles for top-quality grain. Furthermore, the monopoly Vneshekonombank did not allow local banks to open up their own accounts, and each farm manager had to travel to Moscow to open an account there. And before setting about selling grain for foreign currency at all, any farm had to have increased its average annual level of grain sales for the last three years. This is why last year things just did not take off, and the Volgograd correspondent cites one farm that was eventually paid in inconvertible currency even after fulfilling all these "incomprehensible" conditions.

The Agroprombank representative is asked in the studio: "Is it true that this year the price of grain will be $120 dollars in foreign currency rubles per tonne; will Vneshekonombank satisfy demands; and what is the joint-stock commercial Agroprombank doing to help peasants in this most important task?" The Volgograd correspondent recounts the experience of a farm chairman who last year managed to sell only 50 tonnes of a possible 1,000 tonnes to the state for foreign currency, and who could not dispose of the currency thereby earned; this year he is refusing to sell any of the possible 3,000 tonnes of grain to the state for foreign currency until the prices are raised and until the goods offered for that currency meet their requirements. "The question of increasing procurement prices for grain sold for foreign currency is, as far as I am aware, being reviewed in the Union government," the Agroprombank representative states. As for Agroprombank's role, the bank has come to an agreement with Vneshekonombank and sent out instructions on 25 July regarding the procedure for opening accounts; payments in foreign currency will be paid directly from the all-Union Eksportkhleb association into collective and state farm bank accounts at local Agroprombank branches, and this will enable purchases of equipment for foreign currency to be organized locally. The State Commission for Food and Purchases has set up an Agrointorg [Agricultural Importing Trade Association] trading center which is developing a network throughout the country, and aims to assembly requests for the required equipment and technology from farms and to find vendors of these goods abroad.

The Rostov correspondent asks why Agroprombank has been so slow to organize these things given that grain was being harvested in the south of the country at the start of July and it was only on 25 July that the decision was adopted to allow accounts to be opened at local banks. Vartanyan points out that Agroprombank was made into a joint stock company on 18 July, thereby breaking Vneshekonombank's monopoly. The Volgograd corresponent asks whether the commercial Agroprombank will also charge farms interest: interest will be charged according to market rates, up to 1.5 percent maximum. Specialists will be assembled to help collective and state farms to purchase goods abroad with their foreign currency income and also to help farms export goods and find purchasers abroad. Furthermore, the chief shareholders of the Agroprombank will actually be collective and state farms. And it is the shareholders who will determine bank policy.

Correspondents state that they are not wholly convinced of all that the Agroprombank representative has said and reserve judgement on the potential success of the measures.

Grain Handling at Novorossiysk Maritime Port

LD0708215690

[Editorial Report] Moscow Television Service in Russian at 1700 GMT on 7 August broadcasts a 2.5-minute report by correspondent Valeriy Golubev from the Novorossiysk Maritime Port where he says vessels carrying imported forage grain are being unloaded. According to Golubev, from the beginning of this year over 4.5 million tonnes of grain have been unloaded in the port. Meanwhile, 10 million tonnes of wheat have already been harvested in Kuban, and a fairly complicated situation has arisen because both the foreign grain and the Kuban wheat require railcars.

Golubev then interviews port manager V.L. Bykov who says that the Ministry of Railways has not made necessary preparations for grain transportation, thereby causing delays in unloading foreign vessels which costs 12,000 to 15,000 rubles per vessel per day.

A railway station official adds that ministerial policy seems to have been based on wrong estimates, and as a result, instead of carrying excellent grain from Rostov and Kuban, cars are being allocated for foreign grain of a mediocre quality.

Golubev says in conclusion that six more vessels are to be unloaded here before the end of August, which means hundreds of cars will be allocated to this operation. At the same time, Russian wheat is perishing in the fields; losses of the grain harvested in the country this year have already exceeded import purchases. [video shows port facilities, grain handling operations, interviews]

Moscow Fruit, Vegetable Supplies Criticized

LD0708164590

[Editorial Report] Moscow Domestic Service in Russian at 1324 GMT on 7 August carries a four-minute report by correspondent Ludmila Semina on the 7 August meeting of the Moscow City Executive Committee which discussed supplies of fruit and vegetables in Moscow.

As a Moscow housewife, she complains how hard it is to find basic vegetables in the shops while the price at the markets is prohibitive. "And there are lines even for what is plentiful in Moscow—tomatoes, for instance." The Executive Committee revealed that the supply of fruit and vegetables in Moscow this summer is even worse than last summer.

It is always possible in the short term to ensure reasonable stocks in the shops by employing command and administrative methods, says Semina. "But what I am interested in, above all, is how our new soviets are attempting to achieve a breakthrough and introduce order by means of economic methods. This is what I heard: The wholesale and retail fruit and vegetable associations have started, albeit slowly, to move over to economic independence. It is true, though, that there is a shortage of experts who are well-versed in economics."

All countries of the world hire extra help to bring in the harvest. The Soviet Union must decide how best to encourage people economically to volunteer to help. "Yuriy Mikhaylovich Luzhkov, chairman of the Moscow City Executive Committee, said that what we need is a system whereby the people would line up to work."

On the subject of the high, so-called "contract" prices, Luzhkov said that "the March plenum of the party Central Committee on agriculture had dealt an irreparable blow to the supply system for the country's cities by recommending these contract prices. When there is a shortage it is understandable that exorbitant prices are asked and that a town must yield to the diktat of the producer. Moscow spends about 676 million rubles a month on ensuring that vegetables and fruit are retailed at more reasonable prices; that is two thirds of the city's current income. For this reason it has now been decided to set a maximum retail price on seven or eight of the most essential sorts of vegetables and fruit and to sell the remainder at nonloss-making prices. But all that is in the pipleine, as they say. I believe there is a lot to do before the next vegetable season."

Scientific

'Mir' Cosmonauts Undertake Joint Work in Space

Meeting of Two Crews Televised

PM0708133790 Moscow Television Service in Russian 1430 GMT 3 Aug 90

[Report by Petr Orlov and Sergey Slipchenko from the "Vremya" newscast]

[Text] [Announcer] Today is an important day for our cosmonauts working in orbit. The flight control center is ready to come on the air. Petr Orlov and Sergey Slipchenko report:

[Orlov] [video shows brief shot of Aleksandr Balandin getting ready for new arrivals on Mir space station] At 1718 hours the new crew—call sign Vulkany [Volcanoes]—consisting of Gennadiy Manakov and Gennadiy Strekalov have opened the hatch between the Soyuz TM-10 transport spacecraft and the Mir station. They are now entering the Kvant module. They are being met by Anatoliy Solovyev, commander of the space crew—call sign Rodniki [Springs]—and within literally 30 seconds we should see them on the television screen here at the flight control center, the television camera is installed on board the Mir space station. Meanwhile Aleksandr Balandin, flight engineer of the current space station crew, is getting the table ready for the reception. Here at the flight control center, Japanese cosmonauts are rehearsing this procedure. One of them will go into space in December together with Viktor Afanasyev and Musa Manarov [video shows them sitting at flight control center]. We have just talked to them. They have been familiarizing themselves with this procedure and the docking, and are now seeing how their viewers will see them six months from now. And so we are waiting for our new crew—Gennadiy Manakov and Gennadiy Strekalov—to appear on our television screens. I hand over to Sergey Slipchenko who is down below in the control room next to the main communications operator. We, that is to say he, will be able to interview the cosmonauts who have just arrived at the station. Sergey, over to you.

[Slipchenko] We are waiting impatiently for the hatch between the station and the spacecraft to open. I have been thinking that water and flames have come together in orbit; Rodniki is the call sign of Anatoliy Solovyev and Aleksandr Balandin, and Vulkany -that is flames—is the call sign of the two Gennadiy Mikhaylovichs [Manakov and Strekalov].

They will now open the hatch.... The communication channel is open so they should be able to hear me in space. You can see Aleksandr Balandin here waiting near the television camera for Anatoliy Solovyev. Anatoliy Solovyev is helping to open the hatch at the other end of the station. Sasha, can you hear me? Balandin? Balandin, Solovyev, Balandin can you hear me? Well Sasha, we are on air, we have another minute and a half, "Vremya" is on the air, most of the Soviet Union is watching us. How long is it since you saw real people, live people I mean, not pictures on television screens? [Balandin clutches his earphones and looks puzzled]

[Unidentified speaker] Serezha, we have no (?contact); carry on talking.

[Slipchenko] Aleksandr Balandin is not receiving us. The main thing now is to open the hatch.

Here is Flight Director Vladimir Solovyev, an ex-cosmonaut who knows which valve can be opened or closed at any given moment without referring to onboard documentation. He offers very precise and confident advice. [video shows brief glimpse of V. Solovyev]

Now Aleksandr Balandin, moving very fast—in my opinion, I have never seen cosmonauts move so fast in space—has rushed the whole length of the space complex to help Anatoliy Solovyev open the hatch. Here he is back again.

[Balandin] They look well and they have a good color.

[Slipchenko] Aleksandr Balandin is saying that they have a good color and that they look well. That means that the hatch has been opened.

Sasha, are they coming, have you seen them?

[Balandin] Yes, they are floating in.

[Slipchenko] The cosmonauts are on their way. Aleksandr Balandin is waving to them. [quality of video poor, camera switches to Slipchenko in control room]

Another 10 to 15 seconds, literally, and we will see the whole crew consisting of four people, and unfortunately almost right away we will have to come off the air.

[Video briefly shows cosmonauts arriving] Naturally, the first thing the cosmonauts do is to embrace. Gennadiy Manakov arrives first, you see them all kissing and embracing at the other end of the station, and now they are coming here to the television camera for their first reportage from orbit. [video shows Balandin ushering Manakov toward the camera] We will show this reportage in the "Vremya" newscast at 2100 hours [Moscow Time] and subsequent newscasts.

Two Crews Exchange Greetings

PM0708200190 Moscow Television Service in Russian 1700 GMT 3 Aug 90

[Report by Petr Orlov, Sergey Slipchenko from flight control center; from the "Vremya" newscast]

[Text] [Announcer] The docking between the Soyuz TM-10 spacecraft and the Mir orbital complex took place today at 1546 hours Moscow time.

[Orlov] At 1718 hours the new crew of Gennadiy Manakov and Gennadiy Strekalov, call sign Vulkany, opened the hatch between the Soyuz TM transport craft and the Mir station. They are now passing through the Kvant module where Anatoliy Solovyev, commander of the Rodniki crew, is meeting them. Within literally 30 seconds we will see them on the screen here at the flight control center since the television camera is installed on board the Mir space station. Meanwhile Aleksandr Balandin, flight engineer of the current space station crew, is getting the table ready for the reception.

Anatoliy Solovyev and Aleksandr Balandin will have to make up the time spent waiting for the module while Gennadiy Manakov and Gennadiy Strekalov will have to familiarize themselves with the schedule for technological operations. For the moment they are busy familiarizing themselves with the space station and handing over the baton.

[Slipchenko] The cosmonauts come floating in. Aleksandr Balandin is waving to them. Just another 10-15 seconds, literally, and we will see the whole crew comprising four people.

Gennadiy Manakov has arrived first. You can see them all kissing and embracing at the other end of the station and now they are coming here to the television camera so as to give their first reportage from orbit.

First of all, I congratulate you. We can see a tree, I know it is a lemon tree. [cosmonauts are seen handing over a parcel but quality of picture is too poor to discern what it is] And so Rodniki and Vulkany—ice and fire—are united in orbit. In your opinion what will be the result?

[Unintelligible voices of cosmonauts and laughter]

[Slipchenko] Will it be a huge cloud of steam?

[Unidentified cosmonaut] The result will be normal work.

[Slipchenko] How did you find the Vulkany? What did they look like, what was their appearance? Physicians will judge their state and adaptation to weightlessness by your words.

[Solovyev] Both of them have remarkably good color. They seem to be brimming with health. Genna, (? we will call one Genna and the other Mikhaylovich to distinguish between them), Genna finds it difficult to sit still for a minute, even for a second. By this you can probably judge to how fit the guys have arrived on board.

[Slipchenko] I would now like to ask the two Gennadiy Mikhaylovich's the same question: How did you find the Rodniki? What do they look like? Have they changed or not?

[Gennadiy Mikhaylovich] They have changed, of course.

[Slipchenko] Do they look better or worse?

[Cosmonauts speak at once] They both look well...happy and contented...and fairly plump. [laughter] The mood is good.

[Slipchenko] Have a good flight, guys. Congratulations!

Cosmonauts Continue Mission

LD0708140990 Moscow TASS in English 1354 GMT 7 Aug 90

[Text] Moscow August 7 TASS—Four Soviet cosmonauts have spent their fifth day on board the Mir space complex.

Anatoliy Solovyev and Aleksandr Balandin checked the operation of the movement control system of the Soyuz TM-9 spaceship that will carry them back to the earth.

They will also perform training sessions in the Chibis pneumatic-vacuum suit and on the moving platform.

Gennadiy Manakov and Gennadiy Strekalov continue to inspect the lay-out and receive some additional instructions concerning the operation of numerous equipment on the complex.

They will prepare to operate a technological unit of the Kristall module today.

Under the program of space materials science, the cosmonauts made another smelting on the Zona-03 installation. They produced a super-pure monocrystal of germanium.

Biological experiments are also under way. The cosmonauts feed and video-tape quails ferried to the complex and monitor the microclimate at greenhouses with higher plants.

The flight is running smoothly. The cosmonauts feel well.

'Kvant-2' Hatch Problem Result of Crew Error

907Q0138A Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian
28 Jul 90 Morning Edition p 1

[Article by S. Leskov: "Not in Outer Space by Choice"]

[Text] On 26 July, Anatoliy Solovyev and Aleksandr Balandin performed a second space walk. The crew had to finish what it did not succeed in doing during the previous walk—most importantly, to close the exit hatch of the "Kvant-2" module.

The cosmonauts spent three and a half hours outside the orbital station, a little more than was planned according to the schedule, and they executed the assigned tasks completely. Everything is fine, but why is it so disturbing?

There is no argument for on that day the "springs" were working very well. Two ladders—straight and contoured—were left on the surface of the orbital complex after the previous walk. In principle, these ladders could have become snagged on some station rigging and prevented vehicle undocking and docking. The crew moved along the familiar route, unhooked the ladders, and carefully attached them to the side of the "Kristall" module.

But these operations, frankly speaking, are not complicated. It was more difficult with the hatch. They examined it immediately, even before the approach to the ladders. A closeup was shown to earth with the aid of a television camera. The eye was struck by a deformity in one of the two hinges on which the exit hatch swings out. They were unable to cope with the defect immediately despite all their efforts. There is nothing in the airlock compartment for the cosmonauts to rest on—the hatch was sprung, tossing people like a trampoline.

While they were walking after the ladders, designers in the Mission Control Center racked their brains. They outlined a whole program of clever metalwork manipulations with the dislocated hinge. Solovyev and Balandin followed this advice—the hatch began to work more freely and finally closed itself. A check on hatch sealing was reassuring: Not even the slightest gap to outer space remained.

But what was the cause of the breakdown? Incidentally, this hatch was used twice by the previous crew without any incidents. I. Vostrikov, deputy general designer of the "Salyut" Design Bureau, where outer space models are made, had no doubts: During the last exit the present crew broke the technological cycle of hatch opening. According to the rules the operation should occur as follows: Open the hatch slightly by one millimeter and, using a manometer, watch carefully while the air from the air lock goes out into space and the pressure drops to zero. Only after this can the hatch be taken off the stop and pushed outward by hand.

But the crew was in a hurry and did not wait until the pressure equalized; it removed the stop—and a stream of air wrenched the hatch forcefully into outer space. This is indirectly indicated by the exclamation "What a bright sun!" which now, besides adding a romantic touch, the designers judge to be technical confirmation of the fact that the crew was unexpectedly blinded by a bright light. The force of the jerk attained 400 kilograms, and although the cosmonauts themselves say they sort of functioned according to established procedures, onboard telemetry data indicates an infraction of the prescribed routine. To be fair, it must be said that Deputy Flight Controller V. Blagov does not hasten with a conclusion: It is not excluded, in his opinion, that there is a defect in plant production. Only further analysis will be able to give the final answer.

But even combat engineers make mistakes. Why was the "Kvant-2" module not provided with a system that insures a person in emergency conditions? Why does the hatch open up into a vacuum, not in the direction of high pressure as it did on all previous space vehicles which ruled out such "bursts." The fact is that a space "motorcycle" is tethered in the air lock and extra space simply could not be found for a metric hatch. Moreover, the hatch was checked a hundred times in ground-based laboratories. But an automatic insurance, in the opinion of I. Vostrikov, would make the vehicle too heavy.

The hatch is closed, but it is not possible to say that it is entirely in order. It can be compared to a window that is nailed up, crisscrossed with boards. Until the hinge is replaced it is hardly likely that they will risk using this hatch, which by the way is the only one in the complex through which the space "motorcycle" can be taken outside. This means that the next crew once again will have to divert its attention to repair operations, and divert it for a long time. "Self-service" on a complex takes up more and more time, and one job engenders another.

A new crew will be launched 1 August. Some results of the sixth long-term expedition on the "Mir" orbital complex can already be summed up. Five hundred and six experiments were performed, the most long-awaited being the switching on of technological stoves and the obtaining of 23 capsules with semiconductor materials. In the television report seen on the "Vremya" program it was announced that these specimens are unique and will go for a price of a million. Have we really obtained a profit from a space flight at last? But for the time being these specimens have not only not been studied and evaluated by anyone, but no one has even held them. To talk today about their unique properties and expected profits is to pass off as real what is desired. It would be more honest to say that the results of ground-based research on outer space materials will facilitate adjustment of the future program of technological work on the complex. I think that we will have to wait a long time more for the repeatedly promised "golden rain" from orbit, especially given such an abundance of irregular situations....

But today everyone has the impression of a successfully completed outcome and well-coordinated crew work. There is an uneasiness, however, probably because a well-known saying was recalled about the amazing Russians who first create difficulties for themselves and then heroically overcome them.

Health Ministry Reports 1,067 Cases of AIDS

LD0708133490 Moscow World Service in English 1100 GMT 7 Aug 90

[Text] According to a spokesman for the Health Ministry, some 70 million people, almost one-fourth of the Soviet population, have been tested for AIDS; 1,067 virus carriers were detected, 531 of them are foreigners and 263 children.

According to experts, the disease is expected to spread. Special measures will be taken to prevent the proliferation of the plague of the 20th century. The search for medicines to combat AIDS continues. The Soviet Union was among the first to call for working out a global program for combatting AIDS.

Military

Petrov Views Destruction of Chemical Weapons

PM0808094190 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 7 Aug 90 Morning Edition p 6

[Interview with Colonel General S. Petrov, chief of the USSR Defense Ministry Chemical Troops, by V. Litovkin; place and date not given; published under the rubric "From Authoritative Sources": "Chemical Weapons: Steps Toward Zero Level"—first two paragraphs are an introduction]

[Text] It is well known that during M.S. Gorbachev's official visit to the United States, the two countries' presidents signed, among other documents, the USSR-U.S. Agreement on the Destruction and Nonproduction of Chemical Weapons and on Measures To Promote a Multilateral Convention on their Full Prohibition.

Colonel General S. Petrov, chief of the USSR Defense Ministry Chemical Troops, told our correspondent about the content of this agreement and the way it will be implemented.

[Petrov] From the moment the agreement comes into force—that is, after its ratification—both sides are obliged to halt the production of chemical weapons, not to pursue such production in the future, and to reduce their stockpiles to equal low levels.

The figures and time frames look like this: The sides will commence the destruction of their chemical weapons not later than 31 December 1992. By 1995, we will have created and developed production capacities for the elminiation of up to 1,000 tonnes a year. By 1999, 50 percent of all stockpiles will be destroyed in each country. This will mean 20,000 tonnes of toxic substances for the Soviet Union and 15,000 tonnes for the United States. And by no later than 31 December 2002, the states have pledged to reach the minimum level of stockpiles at 5,000 tonnes on each side.

Of course this is still an extremely onerous and dangerous burden for our planet to bear, but I hope that by that time a multilateral convention on a complete ban and destruction of chemical weapons will be signed. Talks on this subject are now being held in Geneva. The USSR-U.S. agreement is spurring them on, and stockpiles of toxic substances and other chemical weapons will be finally reduced to zero, not just in the Soviet Union and the United States but in the whole world.

[Litovkin] According to the figures you have cited, our stockpiles of toxic substances exceed U.S. stockpiles by 10,000 tonnes.

[Petrov] Yes, this is indeed so. But we have to take the following circumstances into account. These 10,000 tonnes are stockpiles of chemical weapons that were accumulated in the prewar years and during the war. They are obsolete and outdated and are of no value as weapons in the light of current requirements.

For the time being there is parity between the USSR and the United States in terms of modern toxic substances. Each side has 30,000 tonnes. Why "for the time being"?

Because back in 1987 our country officially announced a unilateral halt of the production of chemical weapons and, as is well known, is strictly adhering to this commitment. The United States is still producing chemical weapons, and this includes particularly dangerous weapons such as the the binary variety.

[Litovkin] Stanislav Venyaminovich, I would like to turn our conversation back to the prewar and wartime stockpiles. You said that these weapons are not just obsolete but also outdated. Why are they going to be destroyed only now instead of having been destroyed earlier? After all, the danger of an accident or some other disaster is only increasing with each passing day.

[Petrov] In those distant years, these weapons were made in such a way that they can still be stored for a long time with an absolute guarantee of safety. Indeed, believe me, we are protecting them very reliably from any accident. But why did they not start destroying them earlier?

There is probably no need to recall the international situation immediately after the war. Peace was then hanging by a thread, and it was not deemed expedient to part with such a fearsome "deterrence weapon" as it would now be called. Another aspect is that we reached parity with the Americans in the mid-1980's, and it was then that the question of the elimination of old stockpiles arose, but there was no technology for destroying chemical weapons at that time. It was still at the development stage.

[Litovkin] What is the plan for the destruction of toxic substances?

[Petrov] An interdepartmental commission for elaborating a state program for the destruction of chemical weapons was created by a government decision at the end of 1989. It was submitted for examination by the USSR Supreme Soviet in April of this year. Its draft envisages five options for the elimination of toxic substances which differ as regards the number and the siting of facilities for elimination; the amount of capital investments; and correspondingly, the timing of the beginning and completion of the neutralization of toxic substances.

In the elaboration of this program, scientific methods were used primarily in questions relating to the safety of the population; ecological systems; flora and fauna; marine life; and the forests, fields, and reservoirs. The population density in various regions was taken into account as was the presence of arable lands; plantations; railroads; gas, oil, and other commodity pipelines; air routes; the nature of the wind rose; and other indicators. Suffice it to say that over 300 scientists from various scientific research institutes have worked on the projects.

Only after a USSR Supreme Soviet decision has been adopted can we start holding talks with local organs of power and the population about the construction of facilities for the destruction of chemical weapons.

[Litovkin] People are alarmed about being provided with guarantees for their personal safety and the safety of the environment....

[Petrov] We ourselves desire such safety. The fact that the technology developed by the USSR Ministry of the Chemical and Petroleum Refining Industry envisages a two-stage process for destroying our weapons serves as a guarantee of this. Incidentally, these norms are much tougher in our country than in the United States or the FRG.

[Litovkin] And the last question. Will the process of the destruction of chemical weapons need further capital investments?

[Petrov] Undoubtedly. The expenses involved in eliminating weapons are much higher than the cost of making them. But this is the price of disarmament, the price of trust and peace, when all is said and done. Mankind has to pay it.

But we can return some sums by reducing lewisite into arsenic trichloride, and then into arsenic of the highest purity which is used in the electronics industry. The conversion of our production is envisaged in a technical project specification.

But the main task today is to reduce military tension between East and West as much as possible. I believe that the agreement signed in Washington is a great step forward toward zero level.

Ministry Considers Reducing Generals' Posts

PM0708150790 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 3 Aug 90 Morning Edition p 2

[Report by correspondent S. Taranov: "Generals Preparing for Retirement"]

[Text] It follows from a brief TASS report that the USSR Ministry of Defense, in accordance with the current military reform and the implementation of the plan to reduce the USSR Armed Forces by 500,000 men, has prepared and forwarded to the USSR Council of Ministers for examination a draft resolution on reducing the number of generals' posts by at least 30 percent—including some within the central apparatus of the USSR Ministry of Defense—by means of replacing them by officers' posts.

Let us note at once that at present this is just a draft which has, moreover, been drawn up deep within the department which is having to cut back "itself." The experience of past years shows that such attempts have by no means always produced tangible results. And it is the country's government that has to decide how many generals we need—one-third fewer, or maybe one-half the present number.

There were 999 generals in the tsarist army. Their rights and duties, earnings and privileges were no secret. Many military leaders were known to society by name—at any rate, where they lived and served. But do we know much about our military leaders now? I doubt it. For even the present TASS report contains more omissions than strict military clarity. Yes, a reduction of 30 percent is being made, but 30 percent of how many? Nor is it said why, given the existence of the USSR Supreme Soviet Committee for Defense and State Security Questions, such an important decision for the Army and society is being adopted only by executive organs—the government and one of the ministries involved. Will it not happen that it will have to be amended in a month or two by representatives of legislative power? There is no end of examples of this.

Incidentally, exhaustive exactness suddenly appears in this same TASS report when it speaks of the U.S. armed forces: The Americans, it turns out, do not hide the fact that precisely 50 percent of the generals' posts in the apparatus of their own defense secretary are being cut—13 generals and admirals—and, under the Pentagon's plan, 78 posts in all will be cut over four years. Why do we hide? The Pentagon knows each and every one of our military leaders by name, from Kamchatka to Brest.

However, I would not like to draw hasty conclusions. As I was told at the USSR Ministry of Defense, naked arithmetic is not fitting in questions of reducing the

Armed Forces. And those who will have to sign the final decision on the generals' fate will collate it not only with the mass consciousness—it is currently ungracious toward many "chiefs"—but primarily with the military-political reality. And the reality is that the Americans, while reducing the number of their generals, remain a part of NATO whereas the fate of the Warsaw Pact is very vague.

Development of New 'Turretless' Tank Outlined

LD0708I426 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1040 GMT 7 Aug 90

[Text] Now for our traditional section: "In the Foreign Military Periodicals." There are two items here. The first is connected with questions which listeners ask in their letters about the principle of defense sufficiency adopted in the context of the new Soivet military strategy, and particulary on the specific content of the qualitative parameters of defense. Here is some food for thought on this score.

In an interview for the DEFENSE NEWS newspaper, Colonel General Grinkevich, whom the paper spoke to as first deputy commander of ground forces in the Soviet Army, talked about certain work in the sphere of developing new tanks and armored vehicles. Col. Gen. Grinkevich noted that work is being carried out in the USSR to increase the power of tank weapons. The matter concerns increasing the caliber of tank guns which in new vehicles of the 1990's will come to 135 mm—as distinct from 125-mm cannon installed in the T-72 and T-80. Col. Gen. Grinkevich also reported that it is not only the caliber that will be changing but also the technology for manufacture of artillery weapons for tanks and the principles upon which the operation of this weaponry is based. Electromagnetic and electrothermal cannons are being created, the general recalled, and the use of them will make it possible to increase muzzle velocity by a factor of two to two-and-one-half. The Soviet tank of the 1990's will have greater survival capability and be more squat; it will have a much more powerful engine and improved suspension. DEFENSE NEWS notes that the spokesman for the Supreme Soviet Command has also confirmed rumors about work in the Soviet Union to build a turretless tank.

Our second brief piece of news is from the United States. JANE'S DEFENSE WEEKLY magazine has reported that recently the media and the public were shown the YF-23 fighter at a Northrop plant. It is being built on a competitive basis under the U.S. (?Advanced Technological Fighter) program—that is, the building of a future Stealth technology fighter.

Power Ministry Operates at 'Expense' of Air Unit

LD0708165990 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1330 GMT 7 Aug 90

[Text] We will go on to talk about being economical. You will agree there are savings, but at times being economical can simply be dangerous. The dictate of the departments is putting the forces in a difficult position. This alarm call comes from the Red Banner Far East Military District. An air target has been located and air defense fighters were starting to take off when air traffic controllers were suddently rendered blind because the radar antennae froze motionless.

This is what happened: It turned out that the managers of the local power grid had cut off power to the airmen because of a failure to pay a fine for saving power on time—to use official language, for underconsumption. Decree No. 364 of 23 November 1989 from the USSR Ministry of Power Engineering and Electrification brought in the so-called normative system for contractual supply of electricity. According to this document, the consumer pays a fine not only for overconsumption but also for making savings on electricity. This decree is hitting the pockets of aircraft defense units particularly: in the first quarter of this year alone one air group has paid fines like this amounting to the equivalent of one military unit's needs for a year's repairs and maintenance of combat equipment.

Can one really know in advance exactly the amount of electricity you need for a quarter when your consumption depends upon many factors, including the frequency of flights by the air forces of neighboring countries along our air borders? However the managers of the power supply organizations will not heed any arguments.

Moreover, the money flowing out of the accounts of military units and by air defense is being withdrawn without their agreement. The State Bank has that right. What can one say? The USSR Ministry of Power Engineering and Electrification has indeed found a convenient way of getting its financial situation right at the expense of a defense department.

Display by Airborne Assault Troops Described

PM0708130590 Moscow Television Service in Russian 1700 GMT 2 Aug 90

[Report by G. Sedov and D. Britikov from the "Vremya" newscast]

[Text] [Announcer] On 2 August 1930, during a Moscow Military District Air Force display, the first small parachute drop was carried out. The modest experiment was successful. It marked the beginning of VDV [Voyenno-Desantnyye Voyska]—the Airborne Assault Troops. They are 60 years old today. Their jubilee was celebrated with a large military and sports event at Tushino. German Sedov reports.

[Reporter] [video opens with a parachute drop] There were so many interesting events today that it is difficult to choose the most interesting ones and fit them in the short time allocated to us. There was a crowd of people at Tushino from the morning onward. Naturally, veterans—old ones and not so old ones—came to see what their successors are doing.

Well, let's take a look!

This item is described in the program as the capture of an installation behind the lines of a hypothetical enemy. A helicopter drops an assault group at low altitude. [video shows troops sliding down a rope from a helicopter] This is how the group goes into action. [video shows exercises]

Closer to the spectators' platform, servicemen are displaying elements of hand-to-hand combat and training.

However, what came next was something I and probably many others had never seen before. A huge Il-76 flying at five meters above the ground—just look at this—drops some equipment. It is a pity that we have not managed to film how this equipment went into action and set off across the field after it had been dropped. Hot on the heels of the first aircraft comes another. It is a firefigthing aircraft. It drops 44 tonnes of water. It is used in forest fires. Both this maneuver and the equipment drop were carried out by test pilots and specialists of the Ilyushin Experimental Design Bureau. There were other interesting features, but, as I said before, it is impossible to show everything.

In conclusion I would like to note that there are no manpower problems as regards the Airborne Assault Troops units. Competition for entry into the Ryazan School [Ryazan Higher Airborne Command School], the only one of its kind, is just as stiff as for the Moscow State University or any another prestigious higher education establishment.

Baltic Republics

7 Aug Lithuanian Supreme Council Session Carried

LD0708200890

[Editorial Report] Vilnius Domestic Service in Lithuanian at 1400 GMT on 7 August begins carrying a live relay of the resumption of the extraordinary session of the Lithuanian Supreme Council of Vilnius. Deputies Kuzmickas and Abisalas chair the session. Deputy Abisalas reads a communique adopted at a closed session by the Council.

Lithuanian General Procurator Algirdas Paulauskas, gives a report on the relations of the Soviet Army with the citizens of Lithuania. He says, among other things:

"Sometimes there is dissatisfaction that in our country the Soviet Army is called an occupation army. But what should one call an army whose leadership and soldiers disregard the laws of our republic, trample the most elementary human rights and human dignity, shed the blood of our people—an army whose basic argument is force? You decide for yourselves after listening to my information.

"Recent days and weeks have worried the people of Lithuania." Paulauskas added: "There have been claims regarding our youths."

Paulauskas continues: "I must inform you that there are at present over 700 young people who have left the service in the Soviet Army. [passage indistinct] I must state that all these acts by the Soviet Army and by other officials crudely violate the Lithuanian Constitution of the inviolability of the place of residence, the inviolability of the person, are contradictory to the resolution of the Supreme Council on the invalidity of the law of 12 October 1964 on compulsory military service on the territory of the Republic of Lithuania." He adds: "The acts of the officials who kidnap our youths are criminal."

Paulauskas continues: "I understand that some people may have a skeptical attitude to our efforts to institute criminal proceedings and evaluate the acts of the Soviet Army, thinking that these steps are of a more declarative nature and that the culprits will never face the court. But I would like to set the mind of those pessimists at rest and remind them that the Eastern leaders, like Honecker, did not think a few years ago that they would have to answer for their crimes. They have been above the law, but now the question of their responsibility is more than real. And I think that our investigations and the institution of proceedings are not in vain. Perhaps, they will have not only historical and moral significance but will be also of legal significance in criminal sense."

Various questions are put to the procurator, then the following statement is read at the session: "To USSR President Mikhail Gorbachev, to USSR Prime Minister Nikolay Ryzhkov.

"A statement by the supreme council and the government of the Republic of Lithuania. Thanks to joint efforts of the leaderships of the Soviet Union and Lithuania a favorable situation is existing at present to solve political, legal, and economic problems which have arisen between both states. Unfortunately, the USSR Armed Forces stationed in Lithuania are increasing tension with their actions against peaceful residents of the Republic of Lithuania and attempting to worsen relations between the Republic of Lithuania and the Soviet Union on the eve of negotiations. In accordance with the laws of the Republic of Lithuania and the acts of the international law, the citizens of the Republic of Lithuania do not have to serve in the armies of other countries. Therefore [passage indistinct]."

The statement says further: "Apart from that the Soviet Union fails to ensure the security of those youths who are serving in the armed forces. In 1988, 22 and in 1990, 16 Lithuanian youths lost their lives in the Soviet Army. Non-statute relations, injuries, and the threats of death compel many of them to leave service in the Armed Forces. But in Lithuania such youths are being persecuted by the USSR servicemen, illegal violence is being used against them, they are being taken to the USSR and forced to continue military service. Unjustified force and arms are used by the servicemen in public places, without any reason, against the civilians. Therefore there have been casualties even among teenagers and women.

"Such actions of the Soviet Union's Armed Forces in Lithuania are contrary to the laws of the Republic of Lithuania and (?mean) interference in the internal affairs of the Republic of Lithuania. They are also incompatible with the USSR laws and its international obligations.

"The Supreme Council and the government of the Republic of Lithuania demand that the Soviet Union's leadership takes immediate measures to discontinue the acts of violence by its armed forces against the citizens of the Republic of Lithuania. We are convinced that the problems that arise must be solved not by force but on the basis of inter-state agreements.

"[Signed] The chairman of the Supreme Council of the Republic of Lithuania, the prime minister of the Republic of Lithuania."

A proposal is made that this statement should be translated into English and distributed among all information services in the world and that the report by the procurator also should be disseminated among the world information media.

Debates are held and some amendments to the statements are proposed, details are indistinct.

The statement, addressed to Gorbachev and Ryzhkov, is adopted with minor amendments—details are indistinct—by a majority of votes.

Lengthy debates are held next.

A statement condemning Iraq's aggression against Kuwait is read and adopted.

Deputy Kuzmickas states that the session failed to cope with all items of today's agenda. He proposes to hold the next plenary session either on 16 or 21 August. Reception deteriorates at 1600 GMT.

Extraordinary Session of Parliament Opens 7 Aug

Council Examines Issues

LD0708202990 Vilnius Domestic Service in Lithuanian 1900 GMT 7 Aug 90

[Text] An extraordinary session of the Supreme Council of the Republic of Lithuania opened today. The deputies were greeted by the administrator of the USSR Nature Protection in the central western region, Valdas Adamkus.

At a closed session preparations for the negotiations with the Soviet Union were examined. A communique of the Supreme Council of the Republic of Lithuania was adopted. It states that Lithuania has finished preparations for the negotiations, that the session approves basic provisions and aims of the negotiations between the Republic of Lithuania and the Soviet Union submitted by the commission of political, juridicial and diplomatic preparations. A group of the representatives of this commission was instructed to coordinate the protocol on the beginning and conditions of the negotiations with representatives of the Soviet Union's delegation in negotiations. Opinions were exchanged on personal composition of the state delegation of the Republic of Lithuania to conduct negotiations with the Soviet Union.

Then information was made at the session about the instances of the kidnapping and loss of the Lithuanian citizens by Lithuanian General Procurator Arturas Paulauskas. The chairman of the mandate and ethics commission, Aloyzas Sakalas, read a statement of the Supreme Council and of the Lithuanian Government to USSR President Mikhail Gorbachev and USSR Chairman of the Council of Ministers, Nikolay Ryzhkov, on the acts of violence by the Soviet Army against Lithuanian citizens. The statement was adopted.

The session also examined a proposal by Deputy Jonas Liaucius to adopt an appeal to the Lithuanian government which describes a concrete treatment by the Soviet Army of a Lithuanian citizen in Kaunas. The deputies were acquainted with the text of the appeal. It was decided that this issue was of a state and social importance and was put in the form of a question. A reply by the government will be listened to at the session.

The chairman of the foreign affairs commission Emanuelis Zingeris read a statement by the Supreme Council of the Republic of Lithuania condemning Iraq's aggression against Kuwait. The parliament adopted this statement.

The session decided to instruct the nature protection commission to publish in its name a draft law on the protection of environment.

The session will continue its work on 21 August.

Views USSR-Russia Talks

LD0708200390 Moscow TASS in English 1913 GMT 7 Aug 90

[By TASS correspondent Kazys Uscila]

[Text] Vilnius August 7 TASS—"Lithuania is completing preparations for talks with the USSR and the Russian Federation," says a communique adopted at the extraordinary session of the Lithuanian parliament opened here today.

Deputies spent almost the whole day discussing behind closed doors preparations for talks with the USSR and the Russian Federation. The communique, adopted upon the results of the discussion, approves the basic provisions and goals of the talks between the Lithuanian republic and the USSR, which were proposed by the commission on the political, legal and diplomatic preparations for the talks.

A group of the representatives of this commission was charged with harmonising a draft protocol on the beginning of and terms for talks with the USSR delegation.

Deputies also exchanged views on the composition of the state commission of the Lithuanian Republic to conduct talks with the USSR.

They discussed information about the "abduction and death of citizens of the Lithuanian Republic." It dealt, above all, with young people from Lithuania, who went AWOL. Deputies adopted a statement on this issue by the republican Supreme Soviet and government, addressed to President Mikhail Gorbachev and Prime Minister Nikolay Ryzhkov.

The statement maintains, in particular, that "citizens of the Lithuanian Republic are not duty bound to serve in other countries' armies" and that actions by the Armed Forces of the Soviet Union in Lithuanian vis-a-vis persons avoiding service in the Army "are in conflict with the laws of the Lithuanian Republic and are a flagrant interference in the internal affairs of the Lithuanian Republic."

The Supreme Soviet and the government demand that the leadership of the Soviet Union take "undelayed measures to stop forcible actions against citizens of the Lithuanian Republic."

The session adopted a resolution denouncing Iraq's invasion of Kuwait and discussed some other pressing issues.

The next meeting of the extraordinary session of the Lithuanian parliament is scheduled for August 21.

Lithuania's Moscow Delegate on USSR Talks

90UN2520A Moscow LITERATURNAYA GAZETA in Russian No 31, 1 Aug 90 pp 1, 9

[Interview with Egidijus Bickauskas, permanent Lithuanian representative in Moscow, by LITERATURNAYA GAZETA correspondent Oleg Moroz; place and date not given: "Lithuania on the Eve of Negotiations"—first paragraph is an editorial introduction]

[Text] E. Bickauskas is 35 years of age. He was educated as a lawyer and worked as an investigator of particularly important cases for the Lithuanian Public Prosecutor and as an investigator for the office of the military prosecutor. He is also a member of the Lithuanian Supreme Council Presidium. Last year he was elected a USSR people's deputy and later a member of the USSR Supreme Soviet. Together with other people's deputies from Lithuania he was recalled by the Lithuanian parliament. Since 2 April of this year he has been the permanent representative of the government of Lithuania in Moscow.

[Moroz] The Ukase of the USSR president on the formation of a delegation of the USSR to conduct negotiations with the Lithuanian SSR [Soviet Socialist Republic] delegation was published on 10 July. As a consequence negotiations between the USSR and the Lithuanian SSR are being contemplated. Do you agree with this?

[Bickauskas] It must be well known to the leadership of the USSR that the Lithuanian SSR as such does not exist, and it must be understood that we will never sit at the negotiating table as the Lithuanian SSR.

[Moroz] But does the recently adopted moratorium on the Act of Lithuanian Independence not denote a return to the Lithuanian SSR, albeit temporarily?

[Bickauskas] First, the moratorium goes into effect only from the moment of the beginning of negotiations. Second, a document on the redesignation of the Lithuanian SSR as the Lithuanian Republic was ratified before the Act of 11 March. Besides this, we do not view the term "moratorium" itself as a complete return to the pre-act situation. So there is no return to the Lithuanian SSR.

[Moroz] Does it not seem to you that preparations in Lithuania for the negotiations are proceeding in a way that is too complicated? A commission has been established, and working groups of experts are being created... And the formation of a delegation has not even been initiated.

[Bickauskas] Thorough preparation is necessary. In our case, in my opinion, it is even more important than the negotiations themselves.

[Moroz] How do you assess the results of the economic blockade?

[Bickauskas] They are quite serious. I think that we will feel the effects of the blockade for another year or two. It is not so much a matter that by order of the Kremlin there was an official termination of the delivery of oil and restrictions on the supply of gas. This in some measure only contributed to a search for direct ties, the conclusion of new contracts between enterprises, with individual regions of Russia, and with other republics. The main damage was caused by the transport blockade, due to which, even given the most benevolent attitude of suppliers, there was no capability for delivering cargo. Add to this the visa blockade, the closing of the borders...

[Moroz] What do you think, might the blockade be renewed?

[Bickauskas] Everything is possible in the Soviet Union; however, I would like to hope that as time passes, talks from a position of strength for the Soviet Union will recede into the past more and more.

[Moroz] Do you expect that during negotiations a demand will be made that Lithuania act in accordance with the Law on Secession from the USSR?

[Bickauskas] It is possible that there will be such a demand, but for us it will be unacceptable. We did not join the Union structure voluntarily—this, I think, even the Soviet Union acknowledges now—so that from our standpoint the Law on Secession (especially since it was adopted after 11 March) also cannot be applied. Incidentally, the world community by an absolute majority did not recognize the legality of including Lithuania, Latvia, and Estonia in the USSR structure in 1940.

On the other hand (although, I repeat, this does not change our principal point of view), the Law on Secession itself, like a number of other laws ratified at the last session, is getting more outdated with each day. There certainly cannot be a single, unified law on secession that is suitable for all republics, inasmuch as they ended up in the USSR structure in different ways. In addition, I do not exclude the fact that during the negotiations we will look at individual positions contained in this law, but this will be specifically the result of negotiations that take into account all of the delicacy (to put it mildly) of the relations between Lithuania and the USSR.

[Moroz] Why do you not want to hold a referendum?

[Bickauskas] I do not think that you posed the question properly. We never refused to hold a referendum, but we indicated the lack of a need for one, and the impossibility of holding one under conditions of power pressure and economic blackmail. Incidentally, Lithuania has had a Law on Referendum for quite a long time (which, as far as I know, cannot be said about many Union republics). I think that the conditions of a referendum stipulated in this law are much more democratic than those stipulated in the Law on Secession. The results of a democratic referendum can be predicted: approximately eight to one. Eight for the independence of Lithuania, and one against. This forecast is based on sociological polls, including those conducted during the economic blockade.

[Moroz] But, you see, other figures are cited: It is said that the Act of Independence was ratified by deputies of the Lithuanian Supreme Council, for whom 41.2 percent of the voters voted, which is a minority. M. Burokiavicius also talked about this at the 28th CPSU Congress.

[Bickauskas] I would react to this rather critically, not to put it more bluntly. I was not involved in the calculations of the overall percentages; however, the principal approach itself to this question is tendentious and incorrect. Only the votes that were received by candidates who won in the elections are taken into account. But why are the other votes discarded? What, were they cast against the independence of Lithuania? This is not the case! For example, 85 percent of the voters voted for me. But my rival (by the way, a very worthy person), who received 15 percent of the votes, is a person who has far more radical views concerning ways of achieving independence. But these votes are apparently given to M. Burokjavicius. The first plank in the preelection program for not less than 90 percent of the candidates for deputy was precisely the restoration of Lithuania's independence.

[Moroz] How did the people of Lithuania react to the election of Burokiavicius as a member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo?

[Bickauskas] Not at all. Absolutely indifferently. I would not say that Burokiavicius does not have some authority. He, for example, can call out paratroopers to seize and hold buildings. As for his membership in the Politburo—he really achieved his hour of triumph. And, strange as it may seem, he can thank both "Sajudis" and the independent Lithuanian Communist Party and other progressive Lithuanian forces for this. I fear that, without their help, if circumstances had set in somewhat differently, he would not be able to make a claim to anything like this. But is this really an hour of triumph?

[Moroz] What is your prediction regarding the course and outcome of the negotiations?

[Bickauskas] It is very difficult to forecast anything in the Soviet Union. But the process of democratization here is moving so quickly now that I sometimes fear it could cause something unexpected. Take a look. Barely a year ago, on 29 May 1989, I joined the USSR Congress of People's Deputies for the first time, and for the first time spoke from the rostrum about the Ribbentrop-Molotov Pact, the secret protocols to it and their consequences for the three Baltic republics. This was received at that time with stormy indignation. But a certain time passed, and this pact was assessed for what it was worth.

Or another episode of the first congress. At that time we raised the question of a Union treaty. And we were once more met with hostility. And then a year passed: Discussions about a revision of the Union treaty have been conducted for a long time, and they have become a common affair, not disturbing to anyone.

Just a month ago the Soviet leadership did not want to hear anything about the participation of a united Germany in NATO, but now its position has changed in a positive direction.

Thus, changes are swift, and, I repeat, it is difficult to predict anything. One thing is clear: The negotiations will not be easy. But I am an optimist, and I am confident that in the final analysis the Soviet Union will recognize an independent Lithuania, and that it will understand that this is not only not damaging to it but, on the contrary, is favorable.

[Moroz] The fact that M.S. Gorbachev is capable of changing his position in the direction of softening is his virtue as a politician, is that not so? Is it possible that this will also ease the negotiations?

[Bickauskas] It is possible. I hardly have the right to advise, but if only the president would be more restrained in his own statements regarding Lithuania. However, this kind of reproach, apparently, can also be directed at ourselves as well.

[Moroz] You do not take into account that there are various people around Gorbachev.

[Bickauskas] No, I do take this into account, or in any case I try to. It is exactly what causes dissatisfaction among a part of the population that I also try to explain in Lithuania.

[Moroz] Are you personally taking any kind of steps in the preparations for negotiations. For example, have you tried to establish contact with members of the USSR delegation that is to conduct negotiations with Lithuania?

[Bickauskas] I have repeatedly tried to establish contact with many of those people who joined the delegation, even before the delegation was organized. Almost nothing came of these efforts. It is hardly possible to make such efforts endlessly: There is a sense of personal dignity, especially since in this case the dignity of my own country is involved. I am the representative of the government of Lithuania and partly a representative of parliament. Everyone knows that I possess the appropriate authority, and if someone has a desire to arrange closer contacts and thereby promote negotiations, he can come to me at any time.

[Moroz] Were you a member of the CPSU?

[Bickauskas] Yes, I was. I joined the party in 1982, during Andropov's time. At that time I was far from politics. It seemed to me then that something new and fresh began to appear. I left the CPSU last year.

Lithuania's Katkus Cited on Moscow Talks

LD0708103490 Vilnius International Service in Lithuanian 2100 GMT 7 Aug 90

[Text] As already reported, delegations of the foreign ministries of the Soviet Union and Lithuania have met in Moscow. The state newspaper LIETUVOS AIDAS has published an interview with Lithuanian Deputy Foreign Minister Valdemars Katkus. The interview is reviewed by Rima Jakutyte:

[Jakutyte] According to Valdemaras Katkus, the Lithuanian delegation was received warmly, according to protocol. In the talks, which lasted roughly two hours, mutual claims accumulated, starting with an explanation about Lithuanian visas. It was agreed that relations should gradually become normalized.

The Lithuanian delegation was mostly interested in the problems concerning entry into Lithuania. Humanitarian and economic contacts should not be prevented. The talks concerned the second border checkpoint in Kalvarija, Marijampole rayon. This is very important in realizing the old European dream: To join the continent's north and south by a European highway. The participants in the meeting also examined the status of an international airport in Vilnius. Valdemeras Katkus noted tha the Soviet Union's Foreign Ministry sees no problems in this issue. Next time, concrete projects would be discussed.

A very interesting discussion, according to Valdermas Katkus, took place on the establishment of bureaus of Lithuanian interests abroad and of foreign countries in Lithuania. At present there is not a single diplomat or consul in Lithuania controlled through the embassies operating in the Soviet Union. This is intentional policy because the bureaus' of interests can be set up only on the basis of bilateral agreements. Valdemeras Katkus notes that from the Lithuanian side no claims were put forward about the Lithuanian missions and their funds seized by the Soviet Union. Experts will work on this meanwhile, he says. These problems were left for the future. Historical or territorial issues were not raised. According to the Lithuanian deputy foreign minister, we do not intend to raise issues which do not arise. We adhere to status quo, although in the future, in his opinion, the North Prussian problem will come to light.

Of course, Lithuanian residents cannot but be interested in how long they are going to make use of Soviet foreign passports. Valdermas Katkus says that the Lithunian passport project has been prepared and is being discussed by the Supreme Council Presidium. The greatest diffiprovince concern printing, which should last roughly six months. According to Valdermas Katkus, the introduction of the passports would greatly step up the recognition of the government. He also says that it has been agreed with several states—but he did not name them—that the Lithuanian passports would be recognized. Therefore there is a certain collision with the passports issued by Mr. Stasys Lozoraitis. This problem was discussed by the Lithuanian foreign minister, Algirdas Saudargas, during this visit to the United States. In the opinion of Valdermas Katkus, it seems that during the transitional period a certain gentlemen's agreement would be reached about double borders. A foreigner will not enter our territory without a Lithuanian visa. If such a person is declared not desirable by the Soviet Union, he will not be able to go there through Lithuania's territory, and vice versa. The order will remain double until all disputed problems with the Soviet Union are solved. Customs and border services are prepared, and the mechanisms of their activity are established. [passage indistinct]

Generalizing the accomplished work, and speaking about foreign policy of the Republic of Lithuania, Valdermas Katkus stressed that he did not like the frequent differentiation beween the East and West. These notions are applicable to the postwar Europe. Europe which is now being created is different from that during the Potsdam conference. Lithuanian officials in their contacts with diplomats of other countries explain Lithuania's places in a future Europe. One should give up endeavoring to ensure that Lithuania is best when foreign policy is divided into separate parts—East, West, North, and South. The Foreign Ministry is endeavoring to conduct a balanced policy so that Lithuania's case moves in all possible direction as an international issue, so that day after, Lithuania is consolidated de facto as a state. Each state—Lithuania, Poland, the Soviet Union, the United States, Germany—have their own interests. Coordination is the best foreign policy, Valdermas Katkus states.

Reprivatization of Lithuanian Farms Discussed

LD0708164790 Vilnius International Service in English 2130 GMT 6 Aug 90

[Report on interview with Lithuanian Agriculture Minister Vytautas Petras Knasys; place and date of interview not given—passages within quotation marks are recorded; statements by Knasys recorded in Lithuanian with superimposed English translation]

[Text] And here is a report about the imminent reforms in the area of agriculture.

Most observers in Lithuania place agricultural issues on top of the reform agenda. In their words, the renewal of our society starts namely in the countryside. During the Soviet years of power, the Lithuanian farms were collectivized and an era of collective farming began. Today nobody doubts that this was a death sentence to farming, and worst of all, it exerted a tremendous impact on people's thinking and consequently on the way they worked.

The Lithuanian government is currently implementing a vast reprivatization project, so as to help the ailing economy recover. Although private enterprise has been given the go-ahead in the Lithuanian countryside, there are only 2,000 private farms. Most people admit that the process of reprivatization is much too slow, but the more cautious ones insist that this is a normal reaction and the tempo of reprivatization should not be hastened.

Superficially, two diametrically different opinions have now emerged, as to the reprivatization process in the countryside. In an interview with Radio Vilnius, the minister of agriculture, Vytautas Petras Knasys, said:

"A great many contradictions are now arising between various social groups, that is farm managers on the one hand and farmers who are working on their private farms on the other hand. But we know of many cases when ordinary collective farmers argue that reprivatization should not go ahead at full speed, simply because they realise that the necessary conditions are not there."

The presence of different views with respect to Lithuania's future farming policies has created the basis for the emergence of new political parties in the countryside. Thus the question of how the political forces will be distributed in the countryside is very topical indeed. Yet we cannot overlook the fact that the economic social status of the farmers in the Lithuanian countryside is extremely different and hence the various consequences. Once again, Vytautas Knasys:

"If we want to enter the West European market and if we want to continue our contacts with the Soviet Union and each individual republic, we must bear in mind that our economic relations should change essentially. After all, we will be buying everything at world prices. The only way out is to intensify farming and that, in turn, can be achieved by reprivatizing the farms. Having functioned for 50 years within a Bolshevik farming system, it will take enormous efforts to turn things back to normal. We cannot forget the fact that during those years, a new stratum of society evolved, which knows only how to order people about, but do not have any training skills or competence themselves. What is clear now is that we have got a lot of work ahead."

Mr. Vytautas Knasys, the minister for agriculture. In a recent public opinion poll, 30 percent of farmers were strongly in favour of private farms.

Lithuanian Citizens Decry Lenin Statue's Removal

LD0708182390 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1700 GMT 7 Aug 90

[Report attributed to INTERFAX]

[Text] Vyacheslav Dobychin, one of the leaders of the Citizens' Committee of the Lithuanian Soviet Socialist Republic, has condemned the dismantling of the monument to Lenin in Kaunas. We shall not allow a repetition of an identical operation in Vilnius, he stressed in an interview. Dobychin recalled that the Citizens' Committee had stated its intention to establish workers' and peasants' patrols in response to the creation of detachments for the defense of the region and other similar formations in Lithuania.

Lithuania Taught 'Painful Lesson' by Sanctions

90UN2349A Moscow SELSKAYA ZHIZN in Russian 10 Jul 90 p 3

[Article by SELSKAYA ZHIZN correspondent N. Lashkevich under the rubric "News From the Republics": "A Step Toward Dialogue"]

[Text] The difficult situation in which Lithuania found itself after the introduction of economic sanctions, no doubt, forced many hotheads in the Lithuanian parliament to cool down and come to compromises. This was especially true because agriculture—the very basis of the Lithuania economy—was in an extremely unenviable position on the very eve of the harvest: A chronic shortage of gasoline and diesel (only 40 percent of established norms reached Lithuania) threatened the harvest.

The lessons of the hay-mowing graphically showed that our grandfathers' methods of producing feed—scythes and horse-drawn mowers—lead to the most unfortunate results. The current mowing in Lithuania has clearly not succeeded. The first alarm signals that the republic's residents "heard" sounded in poultry production. Suddenly there were no eggs in the stores because of a decrease in stores of feed. A significant portion of the republic's poultry stock, including laying hens, went under the knife. Sugar became a luxury item long ago, and it may happen that in coming months—I emphasize, the summer fruit-and-berry months—there will not be any to allot to the people. All four of the republic's sugar factories have been standing idle. In short, the countryside, which many parliamentarians saw as a source of salvation from economic sanctions (they said that it, our home, will not let us die of hunger!), quickly began to slide into a mire of economic problems.

Now, after the moratorium on the 11 March act and the consequent repeal of sanctions, many in Lithuania are breathing more easily. The oil taps are open, and oil is reaching the Mazeikiai oil processing factory. Thousands of the enterprise's workers who had been sent on vacation are returning to work. Special reports have been transmitted regularly on the radio with appeals to return to work. Because it is difficult to get the factory to full capacity immediately, all available reserves and capacity have been filled with oil. The Moscow administration for oil regulation has promised to send 30 people to help adjust the technical equipment.

Gas is coming. Previously the republic received about 11 million cubic meters of natural gas, and now it is receiving 15 million, which corresponds to the annual plan. A plant for the production of mineral fertilizers at the Kedainiai chemical factory which was halted at the end of April has now been started up. Chemical raw materials have begun to enter Lithuania. And for the

Union this is a substantial addition: After all, 37 percent of the fertilizers are exported beyond the borders of the republic.

In this manner the economy of Lithuania, which had been prostrate, gradually recovered. A difficult and painful lesson had been taught. It was unnecessary proof of how strongly intertwined all the sectors of the country's national economic complex are. And any departure from that structure, which has lasted years even though it may be economically unfavorable, is fraught with ruinous consequences. It has turned out that one must not be so quick to chop off the branch one is sitting on. Although sitting on the branch may be far from comfortable, speaking frankly, so far no one, including Lithuania, has thought up a better one. Especially if you consider that Lithuania does not have a well-founded, clear, economic concept for a way out of the crisis. Active preparations for negotiations are now underway in the republic. The Ministry of Foreign Affairs has sent the government a draft of a "Treaty on Principles of Relations Between the Republic of Lithuania and the USSR."

There is no doubt that this is not the final version of the document, and it will be weighed by the government and the Soviet Union. The main task is to define the goals, object, and conditions of the negotiations. The parliament, by the way, has already adopted a ruling on the negotiations and detailed many questions which may arise in the course of conducting them. A parliamentary commission for political, legal, and diplomatic preparations has been formed which is working on a draft of principles of relations between Lithuania and the USSR—for bilateral discussion.

Clearly no one knows whether the 100 days will be enough for both sides to conduct the negotiations, as the declaration of the Lithuanian Supreme Council on the moratorium stipulates. However, that is not important. The main thing is for the constitutional conflict in which both sides have become embroiled to be finally solved. In this instance the language of ultimatums is clearly out of place. Otherwise everything will once again be as it was: sanctions, cries for aid, posing as an offended and persecuted victim, theories of biological survival built on the sands of economic concepts, threats, intimidation—just a repeat performance...

Much, if not all, depends on the position of the Lithuanian delegation at the upcoming negotiations. Will it conduct the dialogue along the paths of mutually acceptable compromises?

Reportage on Estonian Rejection of 1940 Law

Resolution Adopted Against Law

LD0708191890 Moscow Television Service in Russian 1700 GMT 7 Aug 90

["TASS Report" from the "Vremya" newscast]

[Text] The USSR law of 6 August 1940 on the admission of the Estonian Soviet Socialist Republic into the composition of the USSR does not bind the Estonian Republic in any way. This resolution was adopted today by the Supreme Soviet of Estonia. The resolution adopted is the outcome of two days of debate in the republic's Supreme Soviet on the question of Estonia's relations with the USSR. It says that neither the USSR Constitution nor the subsequent laws of the USSR can serve as a basis for the regulation of relations. With the adoption of this document, the Estonian Supreme Soviet has taken another step on the road to political and juridical restoration of the order existing in the republic until the summer of 1940. The decision was contested by the representatives of several groups of deputies. The republic's Supreme Soviet also adopted a law on the state flag and state coat of arms. It has been decided to use as the state symbols of Estonia the flag and coat of arms existing in Estonia up to 25 August 1940.

Estonian Resolution Protested

LD0708212890 Moscow TASS in English 2052 GMT 7 Aug 90

[Text] Tallin August 7 TASS—The Estonian parliament today adopted a resolution saying that the USSR law on the incorporation of the Estonian Soviet Socialist Republic [SSR] into the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics of August 6, 1940 is not binding for the Estonian Republic.

The resolution capped two days of discussions on relations between Estonia and the USSR in the republican parliament. It says, in part, that "neither the USSR Constitution nor the subsequent laws of the USSR can serve as the basis to regulate relations."

The Estonian Supreme Soviet ruled that the peace treaty between Estonia and Russia of Feburary 2, 1920 and other treaties concluded by the Estonian Republic and the USSR not later than June 16, 1940 and also the resolutions by the Supreme Soviet of the Estonian SSR adopted between November 1989 and May 1990 should serve as a basis for relations and talks with the USSR.

By adopting this document, the Estonian Supreme Soviet took one more step toward the political and legal restoration of order that existed in the republic prior to the summer of 1940. Representatives of several groups of deputies protested against the decision.

A statement by the Virumaa group, which refused to participate in the vote, points out that the adopted resolution does not advance Estonia toward state independence because the issues of the legal and social protection of all residents have not been solved in the republic and there are no guarantees that the economic situation in Estonia will stabilise.

Another statement, also signed by a group of Russian-speaking deputies, says that actions by the Estonian Supreme Soviet and government are of a pointedly unilateral nature, do not take into account the interests of all parties involved and are not consonant with the aspirations of all segments of the population.

The voting procedure also sparked polemics. Deputy Marju Lauristin, who took part in elaborating the draft resolution, said that, in her opinion, the resolution did not affect the constitutional foundations and the Supreme Soviet could adopt it by a simple majority rather than by two thirds of the votes.

Despite protests by some deputies, Lauristin's proposal was adopted without voting and even without discussion. Some members of the Supreme Soviet then walked out of the hall and some refused to vote. As a result, the resolution was approved by 67 deputies.

The Estonian parliament also adopted a law on the state flag and state emblem. It was decided to use as Estonia's state symbols its flag and emblem of the period prior to August 25, 1940.

People's Front Protest Held

LD0808131690 Moscow World Service in Russian 0930 GMT 8 Aug 90

[From the "Soviet Chronicle" feature of the "Soviet Union Day by Day" program; report attributed to INTERFAX]

[Text] In Tallinn's Town Hall Square a 1,500-strong sanctioned meeting has been held, organized by the Estonian People's Front. It marked the 50th anniversary of Estonia's joining the Soviet Union. Those speaking at the meeting demanded an end to the occupation of the Baltic states, withdrawal of the Soviet Army, and liquidation of the punitive bodies of the occupation authorities.

Estonian Extraordinary Session Continues 7 Aug

LD0708153490 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1300 GMT 7 Aug 90

[Text] The second day of the extraordinary session of the Estonian Supreme Soviet is under way. On the agenda are issues of relations between the Estonian Republic and the Soviet Union, of the draft law on the state coat of arms and the state flag of Estonia, and of a number of draft laws concerning taxation.

Yesterday a statement was adopted in Tallinn in which Iraq's aggression against Kuwait was condemned.

Estonian Supreme Soviet Session Reviews Economy

LD0708180390 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1500 GMT 7 Aug 90

[Report by correspondent Heimar Lenk]

[Text] While yesterday the deputies were mainly dealing with political matters—you know that it was 50 years ago that Estonia became part of the Soviet Union—today they are considering economic problems. Everyone is worried by the deplorable state of the economy. On the session's agenda are a few points concerning new taxes, such as: income tax from enterprises, payment for permission to carry on a business, income tax from an individual person, and others. But it must be said that people are not all of one mind about these new kinds of taxes.

Here is what was said in this connection by Ulo Vooglaid, head of a department of the Estonian Council of Trade Unions:

[Vooglaid] In connection with inflation and the sharp rise in prices, the population's living standard is dropping. We consider it necessary for these taxes, as well as prices and all kinds of grants and pensions to be decided simultaneously in a combined system.

The trade unions do not agree with these matters being settled separately. We strongly request that a living wage should be the point of departure: It seems to us that it should be no less than 150 rubles for each family member. This figure must, first, be approved, and in future it is necessary to regularly change this figure depending on the change in the republic's living standard in connection with inflation. Wages and income must be essentially separated. Income tax applies not to wages but to income which only entrepreneurs can have. Only after a republic tax service has been set up in reality, and is in operation and a mechanism for the declaration of income from each citizen has been worked out will it be possible to really deal with this seriously.

Estonia Wants New Republic Economic Relations

LD0708152890 Tallinn International Service in English 2030 GMT 6 Aug 90

[Text] Yesterday the Estonian government made a first attempt in the Soviet Union to help create new economic relations among the Soviet republics. While the (?meeting) was meant for all the republics many did not attend because of the current tense domestic situation. [words indistinct] Belorussia, Moldavia, Russia, Moscow, Leningrad, and Leningrad surrounding regions were represented. The delegations signed an appeal suggesting that the prime ministers of all the Soviet republic should meet in Tallin to discuss a new economic relationship between all republics. The idea is to create a kind of common market in the Soviet Union without control from Moscow.

In addition a statement was signed protesting the creation of Integral, an association that would be made up of five Union factories in Estonia. The meeting appealed to the Soviet Government to renounce its creation. An association of this type is classified as being (?built) by Moscow to keep its control over the economy of Estonia. All the delegations with the exception of Belorussia signed the decree. [passage indistinct]

Bakatin, Savissar Interviewed on MVD Agreement

PM0708181190 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 3 Aug 90 Morning Edition p 2

[Interview with V. Bakatin, USSR minister of internal affairs, and Estonian Premier E. Savisaar by A. Illesh; place and date of interview not given; published under the rubric "From Competent Sources": "Is a Soviet 'Interpol' Being Created?"—first paragraph is an editorial introduction]

[Text] A document with a long and not yet quite usual title has been signed in Moscow: "Agreement Between the Government of the Estonian Republic and the USSR MVD [Ministry of Internal Affairs] on Relations in the Sphere of Internal Affairs Organs' Activities." E. Savisaar, chairman of the government of the Estonian Republic, and V. Bakatin, USSR minister of internal affairs, ratified it with their signatures.

[Illesh] Why was it necessary to reorganize the system of the country's militia organs, which would appear to have taken sound shape long ago?

[Bakatin] The reason is the constitutional crisis in which the USSR MVD and the Estonian MVD have ended up. Of course, it would be possible to pretend on both sides that nothing had happened: That the Estonian parliament had not adopted a decision to create, so to speak, a new republican MVD, that Moscow still controls the entire militia from the Baltic to the Pacific... But it would be stupid to do that, to say the least: Only criminals would triumph as a result.

However, I would not like to lend even a hint of sensationalism to the first intergovernmental agreement of this kind. A discrepancy between the republican and the Union constitutions in the transitional period is sad but inevitable. I am pleased that both sides have taken a businesslike approach to cooperation and elaborated an important document. I will say more—similar agreements will evidently have to be signed with other republics (not just Baltic ones). For example, with the Russian Soviet Federated Socialist Republic, the Ukraine, Belorussia... It is necessary to restructure the entire MVD and give the republics considerably more rights. But they must also be made responsible for the protection of law and order.

[Illesh] What specifically does the new agreement envisage?

[Savisaar] Above all, the government of the Estonian Republic now bears full responsibility before its population for ensuring public order and protecting the rights and freedoms of citizens on our territory. We assume a pledge to ensure the participation of our interested organs in elaborating and realizing all-Union programs to combat crime; to allocate men, equipment, and weapons to stopping mass disturbances, eliminating the aftermath of natural disasters and major accidents and catastrophes on the territory of other Union republics... Of course, we will participate in seeking on our own territory all for whom an all-Union search has been instituted. We will ensure our participation in the struggle against organized crime, the narcotics business, everything of an interrepublican and international nature... And we will do all this, starting in 1991, relying on funds not from the Union budget but from the republican budget.

[Bakatin] For its part the USSR MVD undertakes to assist its Estonian colleagues in resolving official operational questions and in combating any types of crime which disregard both republican and international borders. Moscow will participate in seeking criminals or missing persons if the Estonian side requests it...

[Text] [Illesh] Could this agreement be called the first step toward creating, so to speak, a Soviet "Interpol," which, as is known, operates on the territory of many countries, conforming to the regulations and procedures established in each of them?

[Bakatin] It probably could. We possess a thick file and will, of course, provide gratis information from our own stocks of information and operational-investigation and criminalistics records following requests from Estonia. We will also hand over to our colleagues the Tallinn Special Militia Secondary School and will continue training and retraining cadres for the Estonian militia in USSR MVD educational institutions.

[Illesh] Will the government of the Estonian Republic not have to pass this agreement to the republic Supreme Soviet for approval?

[Savisaar] I think not. We have the constitutional right to conclude agreements of this kind. In addition, the interested deputies on the republic Supreme Soviet have been informed about our mission.

[Illesh] What is the fate of the militia political organs following fundamental structural changes of this kind?

[Bakatin] IZVESTIYA has already reported—and this statute remains in force—that the political organs in the militia system are being abolished. This has already been done in some places. The formations being created in their place will tackle cadre questions. Moreover, under the multiparty system, I am convinced that the question of party organizations (CPSU) in our subunits will, in time, also have to be resolved. It is perfectly clear that a member of any registered party may work in the militia. And so the existence of the former system of party committees becomes pointless.

RSFSR

Yeltsin Begins Russia Tour in Tatar ASSR

Reasons for Visit Explained

LD0708140290 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1200 GMT 7 Aug 90

[From the "Panorama" program]

[Text] We have already reported that Boris Nikolayevich Yeltsin, chairman of the RSFSR [Russian Soviet Federated Socialist Republic] Supreme Soviet is currently making a trip around Russia. He has long been preparing for this trip. The aim is to become familiar with the situation, to meet the people and to study public opinion in the light of the changes currently underway in the country and the changes yet to come. So here is a report by our special correspondent, Sergey Omelchenko, from Almetyevsk:

[Omelchenko] The trip of the head of the Russian parliament began in a vigorous, stormy and at times unpredictable manner. Following a brief welcoming ceremony at the foot of the stairs of a scheduled airliner, Boris Nikolayevich granted a brief interview to journalists. The first question was: Why has this first trip of the chairman of Russia's Supreme Soviet begun with Tataria? Tataria, along with Bashkiria, Yakutia, Buryatia and Chuvashia, is one of those republics where the nationalist movement has undergone considerable development in its various forms, from the democratic to the chauvinistic and where the proclamation of Russia's sovereignty has given rise to alarm over the destiny of national statehood. Well, Boris Nikolayevich has arrived precisely for this reason, to discover the mood of the people, and to explain the position of Russia's parliament.

[Begin recording] [Yeltsin] It seems to me that we will have no differences. We will not go along the road taken by the Union, a road that inevitably entails containment at first, and then the extinguishing of conflicts. No - on the contrary, as for us, we do not want them to exist, these conflicts. So, if you want to be in charge, please go ahead and be fully in charge. If you want to give up some proportion or other of being in charge, do that. [passage indistinct] Traditionally, the Tatar and Russian national cultures are very, very close, despite everything. It seems to me that Russia will be a very serious defender of the rights that Tataria delegates to Russia.

[Unidentified correspondent] Boris Nikolayevich, does it seem to you that this trip will be calm? The process is very exacerbated, and here we are in no position even to....

[Yeltsin, interrupting] I have never been afraid of meetings. I go where people look angry. One can pass by where people look all right, but where there are angry looks that is where I go and have honest chats with people, honest and frank chats. [end recording]

[Omelchenko] Yesterday and today we have been on the move all the time. There have been visits to enterprises and farms. Such, then, is the chronicle of the trip in the form of a brief roundup.

Visits Leninskiy Komsomol Plant

LD0708152590 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1400 GMT 7 Aug 90

[Text] The trip of Boris Nikolayevich Yeltsin, chairman of the Russian Soviet Federated Socialist Republic Supreme Soviet, around Russia has started with the Tatar Autonomous Soviet Socialist Republic. Today he visited gas and oilfields and met workers of the Leninskiy Komsomol gas refining plant, workers of Tatneft [Tatar oil], and of work collectives. Oil workers raised serious problems which had built up at the old oilfields, the main one among them being an ecological one. The Tatneft work collective worked out a comprehensive program for environmental protection, which is envisaged for the next five-year plan. And in order to be able to purchase the latest highly effective equipment, oilfield workers propose the following solutions: to grant them an opportunity to sell abroad part of the oil, extracted above plan targets, and to acquire new technology for the currency thus obtained.

And another thing. These days in Tataria a discussion of its state sovereignty got underway. To this question Boris Nikolayevich Yeltsin answered the following: Whatever independence Tataria will chose for itself, we will welcome it. Judging from the preliminary talks with the leadership of the autonomous republic we should not have any disagreements. The formation of power should proceed, as it was stated at the First Congress of Russian Soviet Federated Socialist Republic People's Deputies, from the bottom to the top, from the town to the republic. Of course, it has become a tradition that Russian and Tatar ethnic cultures have been moving toward each other for centuries. The community of living together has been established. The present Russian Soviet Federated Socialist Republic parliament will be an earnest defender of the rights which Tataria is delegating to Russia.

The visit is continuing. Towns of Naberezhnyye Chelny and Kazan are ahead.

Tours Oil, Gas Fields

LD0708225690 Moscow TASS in English 1539 GMT 7 Aug 90

[Text] Kazan August 7 TASS—Russian President Boris Yeltsin stopped in the Tatar Autonomous Republic on the first leg of his tour of Russia. Today he visited oil and gas fields and met the personnel at a gas processing plant, oil production workers at the Tatneft amalgamation and work collectives.

The oilmen raised serious problems that require urgent attention at old oil fields. Ecological problems top the list. The Tatneft personnel has worked out a comprehensive programme to protect the environment over the next five years.

In order to purchase the newest high-performance equipment, oil production workers suggest that they be given an opportunity to sell abroad some oil produced above the plan and buy new equipment with the currency obtained.

A discussion on Tataria's state sovereignty is now under way in the republic. Yeltsin said that "we shall welcome the kind of independence Tataria will choose for itself. According to preliminary talks with the leadership of the autonomous republic, we should have no differences in this respect."

"As was stated at the First Congress of People's Deputies of the Russian Federation, the shaping of power should proceed upwards, from town level to the republican level. Russian and Tatar national cultures have been drawing closer toegther for centuries, and it has become a custom to live side by side. The present Russian parliament will be a serious defender of the rights that Tataria will delegate to Russia."

Yeltsin's tour of Russia is going on.

Further on Arrival, Talks

LD0708225990 Moscow Television Service in Russian 1700 GMT 7 Aug 90

[From the "Vremya" newscast]

[Text] Boris Nikolayevich Yeltsin, chairman of the Supreme Soviet of the Russian Federation, continues his tour of the republic. Today he met workers of the oil and gas fields of Tataria.

[R. Gelmanov] It was a scheduled Aeroflot flight to Naberezhnyye Chelny's Begishevo airport. Boris Nikolayevich Yeltsin remained loyal to his principles and did not use a private plane for the flight. The high-ranking guest was met with sincere cordiality by (Shamiyev), chairman of the Supreme Soviet of the Tatar Autonomous Soviet Socialist Republic, heads of the town soviets of Naberezhnyye Chelny, Almetyevsk, Nizhnekamsk, Zaynsk, representatives of major production collectives of the republic, and representatives of the public. At Begishevo Airport, Yeltsin, chairman of the Supreme Soviet of the Russian Soviet Federated Socialist Republic, spoke with journalists of the aims of this, essentially his first long tour of the Russian Federation. Boris Nikolayevich visited labor collectives of Minnibayevo gas refinery, Almetyevsk route production service of Druzhba gas pipeline, and fields of the Almetyevneft administration. There was a detailed conversation on ways of improving oil production, ensuring economic independence of labor collectives, and other problems facing workers of the sector in connection with the coming transition to market relations.

In Almetyevsk, Boris Nikolayevich spoke to drillers and visited the town's shopping facilities. In the course of numerous meetings the head of the Russian parliament is discussing with the inhabitants of the republics the fundamental position of the future Union and federative treaties, the poliical status of the autonomous formations of Russia, acute ecological and social problems requiring solution. [video shows Yeltsin arriving at airport, welcomed with bread and salt, meeting with oilmen, and speaking to the populace]

Silayev Chairs Council of Ministers Sitting

PM0708193990 Moscow SOVETSKAYA ROSSIYA in Russian 5 Aug 90 Second Edition p 1

[Unattributed report: "At the RSFSR Council of Ministers"]

[Text] A routine sitting of the RSFSR [Russian Soviet Federated Socialist Republic] Council of Ministers Presidium was held 3 August 1990. It began with a discussion of the comprehensive program "The Health of the Population of Russia." Academician A.G. Chuchalin of the USSR Academy of Medical Sciences reported on its contents. He emphasized that the program must be given statewide significance, devoting prime attention to protecting mothers' and children's health and studying the effect of ecological factors on health. Charts of the ecological situation in Moscow and the distribution of a number of illnesses were exhibited, enabling their close interlinkage to be clearly seen. Emphasis was placed on the danger of the growth in recent years, some of it connected with the ecological crisis, of the number of sundry disturbances in the nation's gene pool.

In the course of the ensuing discussion, I.S. Silayev, chairman of the RSFSR Council of Ministers, stressed the need to examine the arising questions taking into account the importance of safeguarding the people's physical and moral health, and of organizing the "Health of the Population of Russia" program as a constituent part of the program for the socioeconomic revival of the republic as a whole.

The RSFSR Council of Ministers issued instructions to embark on the practical elaboration of the program and to elaborate proposals on the main trends and organization of the activity of the RSFSR Council of Ministers National Health Institute. Academician A.G. Chuchalin was appointed leader of the state program "Health of the Population of Russia."

A detailed discussion took place at the sitting of the RSFSR Council of Ministers Presidium on the question of additional measures to boost the sales agricultural produce in the current year, primarily of vegetables and fruit. A relevant decision was adopted on this account.

Minister B.B. Bulgak reported on the tasks of the RSFSR Ministry of Communications, Information Science, and Space. He drew the attention of Presidium members to the need to develop modern forms of communications, to speed up the provision of communications primarily for rural and remote regions, and to use space technology efficiently for these purposes. It was noted that the launch of three communications satellites has been planned, one in the very near future, in order to provide stable reception of the Second Television Program for more than 20,000 of Russia's population centers.

The republic's Council of Ministers determined a list of basic measures aimed at stabilizing the market situation and providing it with sufficient goods.

N.G. Malyshev, deputy chairman of the RSFSR Council of Ministers and chairman of the State Committee for Science and Higher Education Affairs, expounded at the sitting a concept for turning the republic into a truly computerized society utilizing all the latest achievements in science and industrial thought. He singled out especially the idea that the creation and efficient functioning of a market economy is impossible without a strong information technology infrastructure. The Council of Ministers supported a proposal to draw up a program for the computerization of Russia.

The government responded positively to the idea of creating a "Russian Innovation Center" joint stock corporation, charged with assisting the galvanization of the republic's creative and intellectual potential and with gathering and organizing the effective assimilation of innovative proposals in various spheres of the republic's socioeconomic life, and also their use by foreign partners.

Other questions on the government's activity were also examined at the sitting of the Council of Ministers Presidium.

The sitting was chaired by Comrade I.S Silayev, chairman of the RSFSR Council of Ministers.

RSFSR Supreme Soviet To Convene 3 Sep

LD0708125590 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1200 GMT 7 Aug 90

[Text] The Presidium of the Supreme Soviet of the Russian Soviet Federated Socialist Republic [RSFSR] has decided to convene the second session of the republic's highest legislative body for 3 September in Moscow. In particular, the session will examine the results of the trip by Yeltsin, head of the Russian parliament, to some regions of Russia.

Boris Nikolayevich [Yeltsin] prepared himself for this trip for a long time. His aim was to familiarize himself with the situation, to meet the people, and to study public opinion concerning all the changes in the country, both those underway and those forthcoming.

Isayev Previews Supreme Soviet's Second Session

PM0808105990 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 7 Aug 90 Second Edition p 1

[Interview with B. Isayev, deputy chairman of the RSFSR Supreme Soviet, by correspondent S. Oganyan; place and date of interview not given: "Russia: Second Step"—first two paragraphs are an editorial introduction]

[Text] The RSFSR [Russian Soviet Federated Socialist Republic] Supreme Soviet Presidium yesterday adopted a decree convening the second session of the republic Supreme Soviet in Moscow on 3 September.

B. Isayev, deputy chairman of the RSFSR Supreme Soviet, comments on this report at the request of PRAVDA correspondent S. Oganyan:

[Isayev] Legislative acts from among those that the RSFSR Congress of People's Deputies defined as top priorities are being placed on the agenda of the second session. The deputies are faced with examining and approving laws on the referendum, on local self-management and the local economy, on the status of RSFSR people's deputies and local soviets of people's deputies, and on freedom of conscience, the standing orders of soviets of people's deputies and the RSFSR Supreme Soviet...

A special place among them is held by two draft laws which are also being submitted for discussion—on the RSFSR land code and the peasant economy, as well as on social policy in the countryside and the revival of the Russian village. They must finally untie the hands of country folk to display initiative and make them the genuine masters of their home and work. I believe that this will help in the future to avoid the catastrophic situation in which we have ended up in connection with this year's rich harvest.

[Oganyan] What other questions were examined at the session of the republic Supreme Soviet Presidium?

[Isayev] We discussed draft decrees on changes in the administrative-territorial structure of certain RSFSR oblasts. Here I would like to emphasize that the session participants concurred in this opinion: Let local organs of power themselves resolve questions connected with establishing the borders, subordination, and name of a particular settlement, city, or village. Why dictate from the center and thereby limit the role of local authorities? Moscow City Soviet has suddenly returned Tver Street to the capital without asking permission—and was right to do so.

In addition, in the Presidium today we once again examined the question of the inadmissibility of combining posts. People in many oblasts and cities are in no hurry to fulfill this decision of the republic Supreme Soviet—which is slowing down the processes of democratization.

[Oganyan] A couple of words about B. Yeltsin's trip to Tataria and other regions...

[Isayev] The purpose of the trip is obvious: To familiarize himself with the situation, meet with people, and study public opinion in the light of changes which are under way in the country or are still to come. Boris Nikolayevich prepared for this trip long ago. It will last almost until the start of the second session, where the results of this trip might be examined.

Silayev Tours Chernobyl Disaster Areas

LD0708155590 Moscow TASS in English 1511 GMT 7 Aug 90

[By TASS correspondent Yuriy Lodkin]

[Text] Bryansk August 7 TASS—Russian Prime Minister Ivan Silayev began his tour of the Russian Federation with a visit to areas affected by the accident at the Chernobyl nuclear power station. The visit underscores the priority the Russian government intends to give to efforts to overcome the consequences of the Chernobyl accident.

Silayev today visited areas bordering on Belorussian territory, where the average denisity of radiation contamination exceeds 100 curies per square kilometer in some settlements.

Silayev met residents of Nikolayevka village and Mirniy workers' settlement, which are scheduled to be resettled to radioactive-free territories shortly.

Silayev is continuing to tour ecological disaster areas.

Moscow's Popov Cited on CPSU Property, Market

PM0708123190 Moscow KOMSOMOLSKAYA PRAVDA in Russian 3 Aug 90 p 1

[Report by S. Sokolov: "What the Moscow City Soviet Thinks..."]

[Text] Gavriil Popov was almost five minutes late for the press conference with Soviet and foreign journalists. The reason was banal: He had lost his way in the numerous, intricate corridors of the Moscow bureaucracy's former headquarters. It is comforting, you will agree, to know that the last thing on the mind of the new head of the city—unlike his predecesors—is the "corridors of power."

...About the Current Moment

"A promising trend is observable in the capital—the succession of the driving forces of perestroyka. The 28th party congress demonstrated that the USSR does not possess forces powerful enough to be able to halt the reform. Consequently, the argument in the near future will not be over whether there will be changes or not, but over the form in which they will be carried out: An apparatus-based conservative one or a radically democratic one. The latest meetings between Yeltsin and Gorbachev show that our center (and our president is the exact embodiment of that center) has begun to veer away from the previous center-right model toward left-wing forces. And this is encouraging. We think it unrealistic for the radicals to take power in the country now. The center-left bloc's model is realistic."

...About CPSU Property

"CPSU property is one of the varieties of state property. Party property appeared in conditions where the state suppressed all other public organizations and placed the CPSU in a monopoly position. From that standpoint party property should be put on par with state property and perhaps be distributed among different public movements. That is to say, Communist Party property should be nationalized."

...About the Market

"The privatization of the capital's economy is the Moscow City Soviet's paramount task. We have decided to transfer small enterprises (bakeries, laundries, stores, and so forth) to private ownership—**free of charge**. Without any redemption. Those who work in those enterprises will enjoy priority here. Of course the mechanism of transfer still has to be determined. It should be fair. It is possible that initially, in order to regulate prices in private stores, the Moscow City Soviet will introduce a kind of 'hard currency' for Muscovites. We will also have to somehow neutralize the monopoly of transport workers and trade depots. Not an easy task. Therefore Western countries's help is very important to us today. But it should be channeled not into the bottomless state sector but into those new economic structures that are coming into being: cooperatives and private and joint-stock enterprises."

...About Tobacco and Vodka

"I do not think that a tobacco revolt need be feared in Moscow. All the tobacco factories are being rapidly overhauled. By September the cigarette situation should be stabilized.

"Let us also hope that we will manage to avoid having spirits on coupon. In terms of volume, Moscow has now achieved its 1984 production level. But we recently concluded a contract with the Moldova Council of Ministers to purchase a large consignment of apple vokda and Moldovian wines."

...About Vacations

"Where and with whom will I be spending my vacation? (From the answer to a question by a Spanish agency). I will be vacationing with old friends and my sons. They should see me at last. As usual we will go cruising. I return to Moscow 20 August."

Russian Businessmen Discuss Problems, New Law

PM0708132990 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 31 Jul 90 Morning Edition p 1

[Report by S. Krayukhin: "Entrepreneurs of Russia Unite"]

[Text] Leningrad—The first conference of RSFSR [Russian Soviet Federated Socialist Republic] lessees and entrepreneurs is taking place in Leningrad. It will summarize proposals for a law on the development of enterprise and will pass them on to the republic supreme soviet.

The majority of conference participants agreed that, with amendments and addenda incorporated, the law on leasing under discussion is capable of creating the economic and legal conditions for the development of free economic activity and the prerequisites for the entrepreneur's social protection. It was stressed that the republic supreme soviet must give consideration to all constructive proposals and heed the voice of those who have already experienced hard times in the struggle for existence after becoming lessees.

The delegates showed great interest in the speech of P. Filippov, RSFSR people's deputy and chairman of one of Leningrad City Soviet's permanent commissions, who talked about the proposed development of the infrastructure of a free enterprise zone in Leningrad and about the measures adopted by Leningrad City Soviet to set up commodity and stock exchanges, labor exchanges, and a network of business centers in the city.

Tuvinians Secure Release of 'Hooligans'

PM0708122390 Moscow KOMSOMOLSKAYA PRAVDA in Russian 3 Aug 90 p 2

[Untitled unattributed report under the "Stop the Press" rubric]

[Text] In the settlement of Elegest, a trial has been held for seven raiders who, on the night of 30-31 May, hurled rocks and bottles containing combustible fluids at the houses of Russian inhabitants of that settlement.

All the hooligans received sentences of two to seven years. Local inhabitants blockaded the building where the trial was held. The chairman of the rayon people's court managed to get out of the settlement at the last moment.

P. Badyunov, the republic's first deputy minister of internal affairs, was taken hostage. He was forced to spend two days in the rural soviet building.

A special-purpose militia detachment subunit was dispatched and a large group of leaders of Tuva law enforcement agencies went out. The leaders were also blockaded in the rural soviet. A crowd of local inhabitants demanded not simply a commutation of the punishment but the full acquittal of the "innocent," and the chairman of the Supreme Court and Minister of Justice of the Tuva ASSR [Autonomous Soviet Socialist Republic] decided, given that those found guilty have the right to lodge an appeal within 7 days... to free them conditionally for that period, which was done. The hostages were then released....

And yet another report from Tuva. A mine was found placed by the steps to a hostel where some of the special-purpose militia detachment are temporarily quartered. True, the mine turned out to be a dummy. But, on the other hand, the alarm felt at the situation in the republic is of the most real kind. Akin to a combat alert?

Specialists, Families Flee Tuva ASSR

LD0708212690 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1500 GMT 7 Aug 90

[Text] As reported to the editorial office by our correspondent Yuriy Sysoyev, specialists are continuing to leave Tuva Autonomous Soviet Socialist Republic [ASSR]. Hundreds of Russian-speaking families have found refuge in Shushenskiy, Yermakovskiy, Karatuzskiy, and other rayons of Krasnoyarsk Kray. They need urgent financial help; they also need means for the construction of at least temporary housing. It is not possible to do this using only rayon builders. The situation is being aggravated by the fact that the passage of vehicles of Ufimskiy Trakt, the main highway which connects Tuva with the Russian Soviet Federated Socialist Republic, has been hampered. Tuva extremists are blocking a mountain road with stones. Shots ring out quite frequently.

As Nikolay Sergeyevich Fedorov, former employee of the Tuva Asbest and a refugee at the present time, said in an interview with our correspondent: We lived and worked in Tuva for many years; we were constructing towns and industrial enterprises. We understand that the extremists do no represent all the people of Tuva. But why are the local authorities going along with them and pretending that nothing is happening? My comrades and I have warned many times about the danger of nationalism and now when porgroms and arson have become more frequent we have had to leave the autonomous republic with a bitter feeling.

Our correspondent adds that in the course of many years the Krasnoyarsk Kray, Kemerovskaya, Omskaya, and other oblasts of Russia were helping the development of the econoy in Tuva ASSR. Builders from Siberia have erected plants and settlements here. One of them is a modern town, Novyy Shagonar. It is true what the old Tuva proverb says: He who answers good with evil will only foul his own nest.

Moscow City Soviet Decides on Alternative Service

PM0708133390 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian
6 Aug 90 Morning Edition p 2

[Report by S. Mostovshchikov under the "Fact and Commentary" rubric: "Moscow Soviet—For Alternative Service"]

[Text] Before recess, the Moscow City Soviet of People's Deputies Presidium adopted a decision entitled: "On the Conscription to Military Service of Citizens Unfit for Active Service for Health Reasons and on Alternative Service."

The decision in its published form takes up exactly one page of typescript and, judging by its content, aims to improve the situation as regards observing human rights on the territory of Moscow city taken separately. The document's preamble asserts: The USSR Law on Compulsory Military Service is out of date and does not correspond to the Universal Declaration on Human Rights in a number of its provisions.

This is primarily because young people unfit for active service are still being taken into the Army and serve as military construction personnel. Georgiy Pavlov, chairman of the Moscow City Soviet Commission on Youth Affairs, told IZVESTIYA's correspondent that the decision to disband military construction units, which was recently widely publicized, is not being fulfilled. Indeed, 18 of the 22 ministries which were clients for the free services provided by uniformed workers no longer receive them. But the remaining four are demanding almost as many construction battalion soldiers as were conscripted previously. Once again, young people will work virtually without pay at nuclear industry and other departments' construction projects.

Georgiy Pavlov, like the majority of USSR citizens, has no official data about the number of young men called up to serve in the construction battalions. However, experts claim that every year around 2,000 kids, whom draft commissions have acknowledged as unfit for active service, are taken away from their parents in Moscow to work on the country's construction sites. At the same time, according to specialists' estimates, construction units numbering up to 9,000 people are stationed in Moscow. The idea of the Moscow City Soviet Presidium is to send young people with a Moscow residence permit to work in the capital's construction battalions, starting in the fall of 1990—this will ease social tension and will somewhat alleviate the kids' situation.

However, the matters is rendered complex by the fact that, much as it may want to, the Moscow City Soviet Presidium cannot repeal the validity of the USSR Law on Compulsory Military Service on its territory or consign to oblivion the Defense Ministry instructions prohibiting soldiers from serving in the area where they live. Moreover, the Moscow City Soviet cannot offer alternative service in Moscow hospitals, for example, to young Muscovites who do not want to go into the Army because of religious convictions. It cannot even do the most elementary thing—to interfere in any way in the work of the rayon draft commissions since, under the selfsame law, only certain strictly defined civilians can be members of these—representatives of rayispolkoms [rayon soviet executive committees], Communist Party raykoms [rayon party committees], or Lenin Communist Youth League raykoms. There is nothing at all about people's deputies in the law.

Nevertheless, the Moscow City Soviet Presidium adopted its decision which, at closer inspection, should be more accurately called not a decision but a declaration of resolve. It actually comprises an appeal to the USSR Supreme Soviet, the USSR Council of Ministers, and the USSR Defense Ministry. The appeal contains the following requests: To keep draftees who are unfit for active service in Moscow's military units starting in the fall of 1990; to defer conscription for students at secondary specialized education establishments until they finish their studies; to guarantee annual leave for servicemen on compulsory service; to pay a one-shot allowance to families of servicemen who have died; and to include in the Law on Compulsory Military Service a provision on alternative service for believers, pacifists, and those in poor health. The second point of the decision adopted by the Moscow City Soviet recommends that Moscow's rayon soviets start including their deputies and representatives of social organizations on the conscription commissions.

What is the reaction to this document? We telephoned Colonel Anatoliy Shelukhanov, first deputy city military commissar and, incidentally, a deputy from the Moscow City Soviet, at the Moscow City Military Commissariat. The colonel is now performing the duties of his chief, who is on leave. We asked Anatoliy Yevgenyevich to answer a question about the Moscow City Military Commissariat's plans for the fall draft into construction battalions of Muscovites who are unfit for active service. Having described the Moscow City Soviet Presidium's decision as unlawful, Colonel Shelukhanov said:

"They will go and serve where they are ordered to go..."

Stavropol Kray Secretary Remains Soviet Chairman

PM0708194790 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian
3 Aug 90 Second Edition p 2

[Report by correspondent V. Pankratov under the general heading "Sessions At Work"]

[Text] Stavropol, 2 Aug—The second session of the kray soviet of people's deputies was held here. During the discussion of the agenda, it was proposed to discuss the question of the inadmissibility of combining official leadership posts in organs of state power or management with any other functional duties stemming from membership in political or sociopolitical organizations. This proposal was submitted by the deputies' group "Democratic Russia." The proposal was rejected by a majority of votes. I. Boldyrev, first secretary of Stavropol Kray

CPSU Committee, remained as head of the kray soviet of people's deputies presidium.

Former Dissident Elected Editor of Oblast Paper

PM0808095190 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 6 Aug 90 Morning Edition p 2

[Report by correspondent Mikhail Ovcharov: "From Dissident to Editor"]

[Text] Yaroslavl—The Yaroslavl Oblast Soviet has chosen the editor of the new soviet newspaper on a contested basis.

He is Boris Chernykh, a 53-year-old writer from Irkutsk, who has had a hard life severely affected by the Brezhnev era. In 1966, Boris Ivanovich was expelled from the CPSU for writing letters to the 15th Komsomol [All-Union Lenin Communist Youth League] Congress proposing reform of the party and the Komsomol. In 1982 Chernykh was arrested on political grounds. He was rehabilitated in the spring of that year. Many journalists from various parts of the RSFSR [Russian Soviet Federated Socialist Republic] responded to the announcement of an all-Russia competition for the job of oblast soviet newspaper editor. On the eve of the oblast soviet session, the candidates were examined by a competition commission.

The directive on the newspaper, as ratified by the oblast soviet, stresses that the soviet's relationship with its press organ is defined by the Law on the Press and that the newspaper is guaranteed its independence from directives issued by the soviet apparatus, political parties, social organizations, or departments.

Incentives Encourage Help With Belgorod Harvest

PM0808110590 Moscow Television Service in Russian 1700 GMT 5 Aug 90

[Report by N. Grebnev and Ye. Novikov from the "Vremya" newscast]

[Text] [Announcer] Exactly 47 years ago the first salute rang out in Moscow in honor of the liberation of Belogorod and Orel from the fascists. That is history. Today people in Belogorod City and Oblast are concerned about the same thing as the people in Yaroslavl—about how to bring in the harvest without losses. I would like to draw your attention to the way relations between the countryside, industrial enterprises, and students are organized here.

[Reporter] We are in one of the city's vegetable stores. [video shows well-stocked shelves] This, by current standards, a relatively wide range of goods is the result of joint efforts. Do the city dwellers, know where all this comes from?

Tell me, do you often come to this store?

[T.V. Romandina, a worker] I am constantly shopping here. There is a wide range of goods on sale. There are mushrooms, and plums, and currants, and melons.

[Reporter] What is the reason for this, in your opinion?

[Romandina] It is because we often help in the countryside. We go there and help them pick fruit and vegetables. We give them a lot of help. I think the inhabitants of Belgorod probably do more in this respect than others...

[Reporter] Would you agree that the vegetable crop is good this year?

[V.V. Vishnyakov, chairman of the Belgorod "Plodoovoshchprom" (Fruit and Vegetable Cooperative) Association] Yes, we have grown a good crop this year, although there are not many cucumbers. But we must fulfill the state order, and I believe that we will.

[Reporter] It seems that you cannot manage without help from the city?

[Vishnyakov] That is right, neither now nor in the longer term. We have based our mutual relations on mutual advantage and incentives. I will give you an example. Every enterprise has its own vegetable store where all the vegetables are marketed and the demand for vegetables of the workforce is fully satisfied.

[Reporter] For the winter?

[Vishnaykov] For the winter.

What did we do during the strawberry harvest this year? Every picker received up 30 percent of what he had picked. The procurement plan was fulfilled, and the pickers were happy too.

We have also developed interesting and good relations with students which are organized on the field-to-store principle.

[Reporter] Here, too, incentive is the main concern, is it not?

[Vishnyakov] Quite. The students themselves grow the crops, pick them, and market them at their student bazaars. The students are happy, and the city is supplied with vegetables.

Perm Rioters Call for Liquidating Party Cells

LD0308114390 Moscow World Service in English 0800 GMT 3 Aug 90

[Text] According to a correspondent of the INTERFAX News Agency in Perm, following the 26 July tobacco riot whose participants called for improving consumer goods supplies in the city, 2,500 people have signed an appeal for liquidating party cells in plants and factories. Though Perm's tobacco factory resumed its work after repairs, and the situation concerning cigarettes has become less strained, another meeting took place on Wednesday in front of the government building. The leader of the city's CPSU Committee, Valeriy Surkin, tried to address the meeting, but those present booed him off.

Perm Tobacco Rebels Issue Resolutions

LD0608080290 Moscow World Service in English 0700 GMT 6 Aug 90

[Text] According to the Radio Moscow INTERFAX agency, participants in Perm's tobacco rebellion of 26 July and the subsequent series of protest rallies have addressed to the national and Russian parliaments a resolution demanding a vote of no confidence in Nikolay Ryzhkov's government and the formation of a new government which the people could rely on.

They also demanded that urgent measures be taken to depoliticize the Army, the KGB Interior Ministry, and courts of law and the prosecution of KGB ex-General Oleg Kalugin and nationalize the property of the national Trade Union Council and the CPSU.

Another resolution urges deputies of the regional and city Soviets to adopt an emergency program against consumer shortages, remove CPSU cells from factories and offices, transfer the media to soviets, set up a commission to check the Communist Party's rights to own property in Perm and the Perm region, and to make public the list of the privileges available to party and government officials, special pension holders, and CPSU veterans.

Protesters are hoping that some of their demands will be considered by the next session of the regional soviet, due to open in Perm tomorrow.

Kursk Association Wrestles With Market Problems

PM0208115590 Moscow Television Service in Russian 0830 GMT 31 Jul 90

[Report by N. Grebnev and Ye. Novikov from the "Vremya" newscast]

[Text] [Announcer] The coming market is on everyone's lips these days. Changes are being awaited not only with hope but with concern. A report by our correspondent from one of the best chemical industry enterprises—the Khimvolokno Production Association in Kursk.

[Reporter] [video shows interior of plant, machinery] The Kursk chemical workers supply the trading system with more than 50 types of the most varied consumer goods. And the list of goods has increased of late. This new sector here has embarked on the mass production of hosiery, socks, and leg warmers—high-quality and inexpensive goods. [video shows reels of red material] This is the new linoleum shop. Its capacity is 2-million square meters. What this means is, essentially, an entire plant running on waste products and secondary raw materials; with the added bonus, incidentally, of other articles which are invariably in great demand. The Khimvolokno Association is not only reducing its harmful impact on the environment to a minimum, but also earns enough profit on this, so to speak, secondary production to more than cover its wages fund—18 million rubles. This, one would imagine, ought to make life easy for the Kursk chemical workers. But they get small reward for their efforts. Deductions account for 70 percent of profits. Yevgeniy Gavriilovich Yakovlev is a professional and experienced director not given to dismay. But there is a lack of confidence in his talk these days. One further bit of bad news—the Severodonetsk chemical workers are, to put it mildly, failing to guarantee supplies of raw materials for next year. And you need hard currency for foreign raw materials. How can it be earned? The outcome is obvious—7,000 unemployed. [video shows Ye.G. Yakovlev, general director of the Khimvolokno Association]

[Yakovlev] There is no competition. The enterprises essentially have a monopoly on their products. Since we're at the point where we have to decide whether we can carry on working or not, the enterprise is naturally now going to be starting to look for ways to ensure supplies itself. This won't happen tomorrow or the day after. So we definitely need some kind of breathing space while we look for ways to make the transition—and this will naturally incur an enormous amount of expense. We're not that rich, and these transitions and changes—especially the abandonment of things that are in fact necessary and the transition to something new—will not make our lives any easier, quite the contrary. On the contrary, there will be less.

[Reporter] So, anyway, what's the solution?

[Yakovlev] There should be a clear-cut analysis—and it should clearly determine things. If this enterprise, this collective is working stably at the moment, it should be allowed to get on with the job. There is an army of the working class standing behind the leader of any enterprise, ours included. We currently have 7,000 in all.

[Reporter] I think that the word "regulated" is not out of place when applied to the market. But effective measures are needed as well as words. We need guarantees that departmental diktat—which we are trying to avoid—is not replaced by the diktat of monopoly enterprises. Reliable ties are breaking down. And suppliers are finding it more and more fashionable to engage in a kind of racket; there is no other way of putting it.

Yamal Peninsula Environmental Problems Reported

PM0308120590 Moscow Television Service in Russian 0830 GMT 1 Aug 90

[Report by A. Shvetsov from the "Vremya" newscast]

[Text] [Announcer] Of late, the unique Yamal Peninsula in the polar region has become the source of a kind of confrontation between various departments on the one hand, and the public on the other. A special commission of experts from the USSR State Committee for Environmental Protection has once again failed to ratify projects or the technical and economic feasibility study for the industrial development of this peninsula.

[Shvetsov] [video shows aerial view of peninsula] Yamal is an amazingly rich area. Its soil contains considerable reserves of hydrocarbons, oil, and gas. This is what has brought about the stormy industrial development of the peninsula.

[V.P. Tsarev] In terms of its complex physical and geographical conditions, the Yamal area is unparalleled in world engineering and geological practice. For that reason untested technologies should not be used on the Yamal Peninsula. No technology tested under industrial conditions is currently available. Yamal has an unstable natural system, and even small violations coupled with technology-related effects may have unpredictable consequences. For that reason the problem of opening up the Yamal area must be tackled very seriously and a tremendous amount of scientific research and industrial work must be carried out before adopting a decision on developing the Yamal area.

[Shevtsov] Unfortunately, despite all that has been said, geologists, construction workers, and gas industry workers have been throwing their weight about for several years now on the Yamal Peninsula, with no particular thought for the environment. [video shows workers entering building] Supplied with ample funds by their departments, they are drilling out deposits and constructing the railroad from Labytnangi further north. [video shows public meeting] The public, deputies, journalists, and nature conservation bodies have actively embarked on protecting the unique natural environment on the Yamal Peninsula and the interests of its indigenous inhabitants. Work has often been suspended. A considerable amount of money is being channeled into providing compensation for the damage incurred. Transport construction workers, in particular, are now putting up housing, along with social, cultural, and public facilities in several national settlements simultaneously. [video shows aerial view of the area] A commission of experts from the USSR State Committee for Nature Protection arrived recently on instructions of the USSR Council of Ministers. Its findings were unequivocal: The Yamal Peninsula must not be developed as it is being today. The confrontation between the interests of oil and gas departments under cover of state interests and the true masters of this land continues. One can only hope that common sense will prevail and that the Yamal area will not become lacerated like most of the Tyumen North.

Blockade of Rostov Nuclear Power Plant Ends

LD0808082190 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 0500 GMT 8 Aug 90

[Text] The blockade of the Rostov nuclear power station has ended. The regional civilian committee has stopped the blockade of the construction work which was initially supposed to be conducted until 9 August. What caused the intentions of the committee to change? A letter from Silayev, chairman of the Russian Soviet Federated Socialist Republic Council of Ministers, and Ryzhkov, chairman of the Union Council of Ministers, read yesterday at a meeting of the Volgodonsk town executive committee. Taking into consideration the tense situation surrounding the construction of the nuclear power station, the Council of Ministers of Russia has decided to stop the construction of the nuclear power station no later than 1 September, and moreover has prohibited nuclear fuel from being taken there.

Kursk Residents, Minister Discuss Power Station

PM0608115990 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 2 Aug 90 Morning Edition p 2

[IZVESTIYA correspondent Vladimir Kulagin report under the "Direct Line" rubric: "Should There Be a Kursk AES?"]

[Text] Kursk—There was a meeting in Kurchatov between local soviet people's deputies, party workers, and leaders of enterprises and organizations located in the Kursk AES [nuclear electric power station] supervised zone and V. Konovalov, minister of nuclear power generation and the nuclear industry, and leading specialists in the field.

It was no accident that the minister came to Kursk. He was in charge of a representative commission from the sector's staff that spent two days working in Kurchatov. The point is that the residents of this city and neighboring areas have been sounding the alarm for four years now about whether the Kursk AES is safe. The meeting's participants reminded the minister that deviations from the blueprints were permitted during the construction of the first two power units and that the public had become aware of incidents of flagrant breaches of production discipline by the station's personnel, leaks of radioactive water, and local fires at the station's auxiliary buildings.

The people of Kursk are particularly concerned by the fact that station construction is continuing—a fifth power unit producing 1 million kilowatts is currently under construction, the sixth is next in line. The minister produced the following argument: The first two power units can be decommissioned when these two units are started up, and replaced. The public favors not reconditioning a power unit at the end of its service life, and thus the station will gradually close down once its resources are used up.

There are, admittedly, other viewpoints: Yes, build another two power units, but leave all the profits from the work of the AES (roughly 20 million rubles per year) in the budget of the oblast's local soviets and have total control of the electricity that the AES produces, selling it outside the oblast at higher rates and at preferential rates to meet the oblast's own needs.

"Understanding was reached in principle at the meeting on the fact that there is not as yet any substitute for nuclear power in the national economy and life," Vladimir Toyker, a participant in the meeting and head of the Kursk CPSU Obkom [oblast party committee] Socioeconomic Department, said. "The main thing that people want is total glasnost on the state of affairs at the AES and reliable guarantees that its work is safe."

Committee Controls Udmurt Chemical Arms Store

PM0208145990 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 30 Jul 90 Morning Edition p 2

[Report by correspondent Alyans Sabirov under the "Direct Link" rubric: "Pickets in Forbidden Zone"]

[Text] Kazan—A public committee in the Udmurt city of Kambarka has taken control of a chemical weapons store which only recently was top secret.

This installation is now preparing to receive a special U.S. inspection. Toxins produced during the war have long been held here. Although there have not yet been any leaks, the huge capacities are gradually falling into disrepair and storage is becoming more dangerous.

"You can understand people's anxiety," USSR People's Deputy A. Yastrebov, who has supported the public committee's activity, said. "Two similar arsenals are situated in my electoral district alone. And Cosmonaut Savinykh in the neighboring district has another three. Today the declassified 'chemicals' threaten no one but their own people. Soon, in September, the USSR Supreme Soviet will begin examining a program for the destruction of these means. I believe that we are faced not just with eliminating chemical weapons but with endeavoring to utilize them by making use of the resources that they potentially contain in the interests of the national economy."

Ecology Body Opposes Zagorsk Toxic Waste Dump

PM0208161590 Moscow SOVETSKAYA ROSSIYA in Russian 31 Jul 90 First Edition p 1

[Report by N. Bozhendayeva under the general heading "News": "Plan Scrapped"]

[Text] A plan to set up a facility in Zagorsk for burying and disposing of industrial toxic waste has been discussed by the Russian State Committee for Environmental Protection.

In point of fact this brainchild of the former ministry of the chemical industry would have turned Zagorsk into an industrial dump for all Moscow. The conclusion of experts was unanimous: This construction project cannot be allowed.

Eminent scientists and ecology specialists have said that the establishment of similar centers cannot be tolerated. Enterprises must be made to recycle waste locally.

Supply Problems Imperil Orenburg Oblast Plant

PM0208160390 Moscow Television Service in Russian 1430 GMT 31 Jul 90

[Report by S. Radushina from the "Vremya" newscast]

[Text] [Announcer] An unfavorable situation is unfortunately developing now on the railroads owing to the shortage of railroad freightcars. The program constantly reports on this. Over the last few days there has developed a real threat of stoppages of thousands of freightcars. What is the reason for this? Partially the fact that furnaces operated by metallurgists from the Orsk-Khalilovo metallurgical combine may stop in the near future owing to the fact that suppliers are failing to supply scrap metal. Among other things, supplies of metal for the Ministry of Railways for freightcar wheels will also be disrupted.

[Radushina] [video shows entrance to steelworks] This is not merely the Orsk-Khalilovo metallurgical combine: They call it Orenburg's Magnitogorsk. It is the main supplier of metal for gas pipelines. [video shows furnace] Its output is used to produce machines, construction work, bridges, equipment, grain harvesting and coalmining equipment, in virtually all sectors of the country's national economy and also abroad. Today the combine's furnaces are on the verge of shutting down owing to the lack of scrap metal. Over the last half-year the supply shortfall has been more than 130,000 tonnes. In July only half the planned quantity arrived. The metallurgical workers are doing everything in their power. The enterprise has declared an emergency. A voluntary action detachment has been set up and is removing up to 1,000 tonnes of scrap metal from the combine's dumps. The collective has even agreed to pay money out of its own profits to those metal suppliers who completely fulfill the plan. If only it can prevent the steel furnaces from being shut down and other people from being put on the spot. Messengers have been sent to other Orenburg, Uralsk, and Aktyubinsk Oblast suppliers who are in arrears. But even if they succeed in obtaining their arrears from suppliers, it is impossible to transport the scrap metal owing to the absence of freightcars. A complex chain across the country begins with the metallurgical workers; they are failing to meet orders from their clients, they in turn are doing the same, and so on. That is the chain reaction of disorder and disruption which is bringing about not only economic but also social aggravation.

[V. Churilov, general director of the Orsk-Khalilovo Metallurgical Combine] We have just one thing to ask of the Ministry of Metallurgy: Redistribute scrap metal now. The harvest campaign, the harvest is now beginning in the Orenburg area. We realize the complex situation with this good harvest. But in the Central Asian republics the peak, i.e. the harvest, has somewhat slackened off. For that reason the concern—"Vtormet," that is—must promptly redistribute scrap metal from the Central Asian republics. This is, after all, so to speak, a cri de coeur. What next? Life is close at hand [as heard], winter is close at hand. The combine must have a surplus of 90,000 [tonnes] of scrap metal by 1 October. We are not saying now that it should be sized [gabaritnyy]. We ourselves are processing any scrap today.

[Radushina] [video shows documents] But Novotroitsk's metallurgical workers need urgent aid rather than formal replies from their own concern and from bureaucratic promises the USSR Council of Ministers. We will take steps.

Open Cast Mining Faces Production Problems

PM0308153990 Moscow Television Service in Russian 0830 GMT 2 Aug 90

[Report by V. Kovalchuk from the "Vremya" newscast]

[Text] [Announcer] The measures taken by the government and by local authorities to normalize the situation in the country's mining areas are above all designed to improve miners' lives. However, not everyone seems to have learned the lessons of the miners' disturbances. This is illustrated by our report from the Yerkovetskiy coal field which is in the Far East.

[Kovalchuk] Forcing the ancient shift transportation truck along the bumpy dirt track, and there you have the mining settlement. You only have to visit it to see for yourself the truth in what the workers say. [video shows apartment blocks] A few five-story apartment blocks create just an appearance of prosperity. Almost everything else here is temporary, ranging from antipollution installations to boilers. A music school has been built instead of a general education school, obviously with a view to speeding things up and effecting savings, there is obviously no concern for music here. Everything else is either under construction or else still on the drawing board. See for yourselves, walking excavators have been at a standstill at the colliery for several years now. As much equipment as is needed to uncover the coal seam has been moved up to the dumps. In one area the seam is open. But there is still no extraction under way there.

[G.I. Kazantsev, chief engineer at the coal face] We envisage starting up the first line in 1990, producing 1 million tonnes of coal a year. It should produce the same amount in 1991. Although there is a difficulty in that we failed to foresee the quantity of water, and although we went down to 26 meters below the surface in order to begin normal coal extraction, we have to go further to 56 meters.

[Kovalchuk] This is a very complex task.

[Kazantsev] Yes it is, in that we do not have standby plants and pumping installations, even with this huge pump with a capacity of up to 1,000 cubic meters an hour.

[Kovalchuk] So, you need help?

[Kazantsev] Yes, the ministry is helping us, but not very much. We need spare pumps, one pump burns out within a month, say, in these conditions.

[Kovalchuk] Is it only the pumps that are causing the problems and preventing the miners from extracting the fuel? The shortage of qualified workers and specialists at the construction site is the number one question today. Who will agree to work here if there are no amenities? It seems that the recent miners' lessons are not taken into consideration for the Yerkovetskiy coalfield.

Tyumen Oil Fields Reported in 'Disgraceful State'

PM0608095790 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 4 Aug 90 Second Edition p 2

[Report by own correspondent V. Orlov under the "Urgent Signal" rubric: "At Critical Point"]

[Text] Alarming news is coming from the oil and gas regions of West Siberia. Drilling teams in Kogalym have been idle for several weeks. Many fields belonging to the "Nizhnevartovskneftegaz," "Noyabrskneftegaz," and "Purneftegaz" Associations are on the verge of closing down. The number of pipeline breakdowns is growing: Accidents have topped the 1,000 mark. Rivers and lakes are being contaminated as a result of the spillage of tens of thousands of tonnes of oil. Giant fires are blazing on the taiga.

A shortfall of around 5 million tonnes of oil has been experienced since the start of the year. The oil fields are being badly prepared for the long, severe Siberian winter. And, as many local economists and scientists maintain, in general, if this continues, the country will be on the verge of economic crisis this coming winter.

"Our situation indeed could not be worse," agrees Yu. Vershinin, chairman of the "Tyumenneftegaz" Association Board (created recently to replace the Glavtyumenneftegaz [Main Administration for Petroleum and Gas in the Tyumen Region]). "Since becoming autonomous we have not received any economic freedoms so far, and the state has given us less care and attention."

The facts clearly show that oil industry workers, who have an essentially 100-percent state order, are not being provided, as they should in such a situation, with normal material and technical resources by the Gosplan [State Planning Committee] and the Gossnab [State Committee for Material and Technical Supply]. And since the association ceased to be a subunit of the Ministry of the Petroleum Industry, the ministry's actions have naturally been hampered...

Due to lack of casing, the drilling plan is almost 500,000 linear meters short of target. While at the same time more than 300 prepared drilled wells lie idle. There are no Christmas trees for them. Baku's Shmidt Plant has failed to supply 1,200 sets of Christmas trees. Six hundred pumping units have not been delivered.

In actual fact, today there are huge shortfalls in supplies to oil industry workers in every area. The metallurgical plants of Sumgait, Nikopol, Chelyabinsk, and the Volga region have failed to supply the workers of the north with tens of thousands of tonnes of piping for drilling and for repairing oil pipelines. There is no insulation cladding available and pipelines are having to be laid "naked." In other words, new accidents are to be expected in two to three years.

Delegations of oil industry workers and the leaders of Tyumen Oblast have knocked on the most important doors in Moscow to get this disgraceful state of affairs brought to an end. They have been politely listened to by Union government leaders. However, the protocols of the conferences in which Comrades Ryzhkov, Maslukov, Mostovoy, Voronin, and others took part are not being implemented. Therefore, by year's end, the oil workers could be more than 1 million meters behind in drilling and would have failed to deliver at least 10 million tonnes of oil to the country. And yet the shortage of fuel and energy is already putting the economy of all regions into turmoil. The impending calamity must be prevented.

Leningrad Oblast Soviet Views Live Transmissions

LD0608100890 Leningrad Domestic Service in Russian 1400 GMT 20 Jul 90

[Text] The second day of the work of the Leningrad Oblast soviet began with a speech by Boris Mikhailovich Petrov, the chairman of the television and radio broadcasting committee. In connection with serious financial difficulties, which at present are being felt by Leningrad television and radio due to the large number of sociopolitical broadcasts, the chairman appealed to the deputies to refrain from everyday live transmissions. [passage indistinct]

After a brief, businesslike discussion, the delegates agreed to this request. The session also agreed with (Lutsenko), from Tosno, who expressed a desire to participate in the work of creating these broadcasts.

'People's TV Studio' Operating in Siberian Town

PM0608132590 Moscow SOVETSKAYA ROSSIYA in Russian 4 Aug 90 First Edition p 1

[Report by A. Shchegolev: "People's TV Studio"]

[Text] Krasnoyarsk Kray—We had never heard of the existence of such a thing, although we are well aware of what cable or satellite TV is. Now here in the Siberian town of Kodinskiy, on the Angara River, the city soviet executive committee has adopted a decision to set up its own people's TV studio. It already exists and regularly broadcasts for 60 to 90 minutes.

Western Republics

Ukrainian Sovereignty Decision Pondered

PM0708141590 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 4 Aug 90 Second Edition p 3

[Article by correspondent V. Drozd carried on the "Discussion Sheet No. 56" page: "What Kind of Ukraine Do They Want? Anticommunism Has Fraternized With Nationalism While the Voters' Mandates Have Been Forgotten"]

[Text] Ukrainian SSR [Soviet Socialist Republic]—They were thrilling moments. No sooner did the voting results flash on the screen than the deputies rose—as if moved by a single impulse—to their feet. An ovation broke out. Faces lit up with joy. That was how the Ukrainian SSR Supreme Soviet greeted the birth of the Declaration on the State Sovereignty of the Ukraine.

It seemed that at last the republic parliament had achieved the consensus which people had grown tired waiting for. Just as they had grown tired waiting for the deputies to overcome their fascination with parliamentary tussles and verbal sparring and remember them, their voters, and the needs of their soil. It seemed a good time to get down to work in harmony so that each line of the document could begin to breathe fully and deeply and usher in the beginning of a new life for the industrious and talented Ukrainian people.

But the machines on which the declaration was printed had no time to cool before some deputies who had not disguised their previous amazement (it was not their hope that such a democratic document be adopted) began immediately agonizing: How could they have allowed the parliamentary majority to carry the day? The majority, after all, is "hemming in" the Ukraine with a mesh of treaties with imperial Russia, and there won't remain a trace of its hard-won sovereignty. Indeed, just see, as a classic writer put it, what they want more: a constitution or sturgeon with horseradish.

The deputies from the republic's western oblasts acted as always as the choir leaders, but the solo parts were performed by parliamentarians from the Lvov region..

What kind of Ukraine are they grieving over, then, and what kind of Ukraine is it that they want? If you form your image of it from the speeches by deputies united in the People's Rada (and recently they created the Association of Democratic Councils of the Ukraine), it appears as a bourgeois democratic state with a procapitalist orientation. There is no question of any socialist choice in these plans, just as there is no place for the forces which advocate it. It goes without saying that the "democrats" do not need any union to build such a state. It would rather be harmful. Even a renewed form of it. And that is why there was an abundance of curses directed at it.

Moreover, not just in the direction of the future Union. But against colleagues in the Supreme Soviet too. The reason? Some are guilty of having "pushed through" the declaration in its present form, others of having allowed themselves to be duped and having left an actual reference to the possibility of joining the Union in the document. After collecting themselves, the representatives of the People's Rada gave vent to their emotion and oratory. It transpired that the present composition of parliament and the dignity of the Ukrainian people are not in accord. Fears are fueled: "Is there not a threat that dictatorship of one section will be replaced by dictatorship of another section of parliament?" These are equivocations regarding the majority, the "democrats" do not reckon themselves among the supporters of dictatorship. I should say not: The poet D. Pavlychko stated on their behalf that they discharge themselves of all responsibility for the Supreme Soviet decision. What an ingenuous blend of childish whim and ultimatum to the majority. The question naturally arises: Who is doing the dictating, and pretty furiously so, and why?

Or take the following pearls. It turns out that the indigenous population of the Ukraine has been eroded by the 16 million non-Ukrainians. And therefore everyone living in the republic must be "integrated into a single republic in common [sotsium respubliki], the core of which is the people who gave the name to their national republic." (Or to spell it out: If you want to live in the Ukraine, become a Ukrainian).

What is all this leading to? To the following: "If we (that is to say, parliamentarians—V.D.) trail behind events, that will not indeed best serve the process which we would like to implement inside parliament... It would be best of all if the Ukrainian Communist Party were to disband itself."

It is clear what S. Khmara, deputy chairman of the Ukrainian Republican Party, formerly the Ukrainian Helsinki Union, is getting at.

But we'll get back to that a bit later. First the "party theme," which certain people's deputies are playing up for all its worth. At every possible opportunity. The purpose of these attacks upon the CPSU and the Ukrainian Communist Party is twofold. First, to remove at any cost the party (and by the hands of the people) from political life. To this end signatures are being collected in the Lvov area demanding that the activity of communists be banned and that they be declared illegal. Many of the new soviets of Lvov, Ivano-Frankovsk, and Ternopol began by removing busts and bas-reliefs of Lenin from their sessions hall. It reached the point where property belonging to Lvov's "Avtopogruzchik" Production Association party committee was dragged out right outside the entrance to the building in which the obkom [oblast party committee] is located. Incidentally, under the same roof as the oblast soviet. And the leaders of the soviet state at the same time that it is the party obkom which is fueling tension and accuse the party committee of... anti-Sovietism. You increasingly hear it said: "We will drive the country to the point where the party is judged." "Communist blood will flow—throughout the Ukraine, communists will be pulled out of their mouseholes, and you will have nowhere to hide."

They did not shrink from threatening physical violence against the family of V. Sekretaryuk, first secretary of the Lvov obkom, when he wanted to lay a wreath at the Lenin Memorial on the day marking the city's liberation from the fascists...

But there is another objective to these outrages. The hour is inexorably approaching when the new authorities will have to answer to the electorate: What have they actually done to carry out its mandates. They have nothing to boast about to date. The noisily launched campaign to increase the plots of land to peasants has produced scant results. The housing commissioning plan is malfunctioning. The store shelves are empty, prices in the marketplace are high. So the new soviets needed a "diversionary meneuver." A device neither new nor invented in Lvov. But even better, you need an "enemy" upon whom you can heap all the blame and whose machinations explain everything, including your own lack of skill and even reluctance to get down to everyday work without fuss.

Nationalism too has felt more self-confident on this well-worn antiparty path. In the republic parliament it is still obliged to disguise itself with high-flown rhetoric, but outside its walls some deputies are bolder. Thus L. Lukyanenko, chairman of the Ukrainian Republican Party, speaking about the revival of the Ukrainian people's spirituality, defined the size of that people—40 million... But what is to be done with the other people living in the Ukraine? The Ternopol City Soviet went even farther. It adopted a decision which reads as follows: "To Deem as **unacceptable** the study of the Russian language in Ukrainian-language preschool establishments and the initial classes of general educational schools."

What is this if not nationalism consecrated by the power of the soviets? The ardor People's Rada deputies put into trying to prove the contrary had to be seen.

Separatism is surfacing. The democratic bloc leaders had boiled with anger: On what grounds did the Ukrainian Communist Party Central Commitee, the Supreme Soviet Presidium, and the republic parliament dare to accuse the "democrats" from the republic's western region of creating a "kind" of Galicia? Recently, however, the Lvov Oblast newspaper ZA VILNU UKRAINU published a brief report that a conference of representatives of the Lvov, Ternopol, and Ivano—Frankovsk Oblast Soviets had taken place in Ivano-Frankovsk. If you compare what was said there with the "Galicia" plan published earlier, all doubts disappear. Attempts are being made to revive the regional formation. Carried away by its accusations against the Ukrainian Communist Party, the newspaper let slip the association's description—federation. No matter how you twist and turn, no matter how you try to disown it, the secret is now out. And the setting up of Galicia has begun...

To sum up, the new, particularly frenzied wave of attacks on the CPSU and communists and undisguised threats against them is becoming clear. This is how the "democrats" themselves explain it: "Lenin lives today in the communists. If we destroy Marxism-Leninism, the party will collapse." That is the kind of Ukraine that these latter-day saviors of the Ukraine require.

That is why the "more dreadful or absurd" the sentence the better. The "democrats" particularly love to play the card of the communists' responsibility (although many only yesterday carried a party card and some even do so now) for the destuction of the Ukrainian people's culture and spirituality. It would not be a bad thing for these "professional mourners" to look at themselves. Did they not, through their creative and scientific works, have a hand in this devastation? Let us scrutinize those who wax eloquent at the microphone, from the television screen, and at rallies and various congresses. Some praised the party, others "validated" the various stages of socialism built, others denounced the Ukrainian bourgeois nationalists and religion, while yet others planned twin cities and lauded the Chernobyl AES [nuclear electric power station]. Today they are upright men the likes of which the world had not seen. Fine, they received their rewards (titles, awards, and prizes), now they can spit in the well! And with all the more gusto so that no one, God forbid, should remember how only yesterday they avidly prostrated themselves before it. With their convictions it is understandable: They finagled in the past and are now hurrying to grab something for themselves today too. It is important to them not to be the agent, but like Shchedrin's hero, to be "the victim." Incidentally, if Soviet power and the party were so bad for them, let them repent, (which is what they demand of the party) and give up the prizes, other decorations, and awards with which they were endowed by the "infernal power," the "evil empire." Or is it that charity begins at home, don't touch—it's mine.

And let us now return to what S. Khmara was getting at in his speech in the Ukrainian SSR Supreme Soviet. His colleague, V. Chernovil, chairman of the Lvov Oblast Soviet, revealed everything without any ado. A week after the proclamation of the Declaration of State Sovereignty of the Ukraine he gave an interview to ZA VILNU UKRAINU. The editorial office carried a phrase from the telephone conversation as the headline "The Supreme Soviet is heading for dissolution."

Whence such a conclusion? "The ultimate declaration will be when real power is involved, but here it must be remembered that leopards don't change their spots."

Which parliamentarians did the soviet chairman rank among the leopards? One has to suppose those who put forward the draft Union treaty, which does not suit the "democrats" at all. They want to hear nothing about a treaty. V. Chernovil is not happy with the parliamentary majority. What is its basis?—he enquires. Hence it follows that if the "democrats" have failed to get through their "own" Supreme Soviet chairman, it means that the soviet is unviable. The grounds? Namely, that deputies who do not belong to the People's Rada are "representatives of a party-bureaucratic clique" which "fears to lose its meal ticket."

What, then, are V. Chernovil and the People's Rada after? "...We will use August to campaign for the dissolution of the present Supreme Soviet." How? They intend to organize rallies, strikes, civil disobedience. There are instructions on this account: Select two-three people from each collective and while they "disobey," the rest will do the work on their behalf. It has to be supposed that people's deputies will also experience refined pressure, up to and including the demand that they give up their seats. All this, according to the calculations of the People's Rada and its ideologists, should result in the question of new elections being raised by the fall.

The masks are off. A hundred or so deputies have all decided for the people. But what is to be done about the following provisions of the declaration: "Only the Ukrainian SSR Supreme Soviet may speak in the name of the whole people. No political party, public organization, or other grouping or individual may speak on behalf of the whole people of the Ukraine." It is apposite to remember here that a little over half of all voters voted for the parliament deputies from Lvov—and that not at the first go. Or have they forgotten, has success put their heads in a whirl? Perhaps it is time for the voters to ask their representatives whether it was really for this that they gave them their vote?

It is time to take an honest look at the facts: The new political forces are preparing a parliamentary coup [perevorot] in the republic. This should be borne in mind wherever emissaries of the People's Rada appear, and their speeches should be gauged against their publicly useful works. It should also be borne in mind that if the coup succeeds, it is not difficult to imagine what will follow: The first victims will be those who think differently.

Supreme Soviet Chairman on Republic Ties, Harvest

LD0808024390 Moscow Television Service in Russian 1700 GMT 7 Aug 90

[Interview with Leonid Makarovich Kravchuk, Ukraine Supreme Soviet chairman, by correspondent L. Ilyenko in Kiev; date not given; from the "Vremya" newscast—recorded]

[Text] [Announcer] As you know Leonid Makarovich Kravchuk has been elected Ukraine Supreme Soviet chairman. He has given an interview to our correspondent.

[Correspondent L. Ilyenko] Leonid Makarovich, the first session of the new convocation of our Ukrainian parliament has ended. You were elected Ukrainian Supreme Soviet chairman. Now, for the first time in this capacity, you are leaving on a tour of the republic.

[Kravchuk] First of all I would like to say that I would very much like to hear the opinions of workers, peasants and the intelligentsia and how they access the laws and resolutions adopted by the Supreme Soviet. You know these have not been received and interpreted identically. Naturally in our parliament there are more than 40 deputies' groups of different parties and of a different bias.

For me today, the most important task is to work out a mechanism for implementing these laws. They are laws which should alter our life. So far they have only been written. We must feel the pulse and opinion of the people and try once again to appeal to people and tell them that they must now give these laws force. They must set these laws on their feet so they can walk around. There is no other way. For us today this tour is connected primarily with how we are to gather and store the harvest. You know we have never had a harvest like this in the Ukraine as far as I can remember. What I think the most important thing today among these major prolblems is is to define ways to change to a market economy on the premise that the integration of our economy and that of the Soviet Union is the deepest in the world. To mechanically cut short any ties would simply place the people in a tragic situation.

[Ilyenko] How are you planning to build mutual relations with the republics of the Union?

[Kravchuk] We have many republics but there are three republics—that is, Russia, the Ukraine and Belorussia—without excluding other republics. We have strong powerful ties with all of them and they need to be developed. I would like an example of such ties, as has always been the case throughout history...

[Ilyenko, interrupting]...consolidating in everything is the most important...

[Kravchuk, interrupting]...quite right, should be shown by these three republics. How can this be done skillfully, how can this elevate the soul of the people, how can it elevate the economy, how can relations be made favorable, relations between republics, between the leadership of the republic. I would like to say sincerely that Russia is the biggest republic and Boris Nikolayevich Yeltsin is really taking collossal steps to elevate Russia. Russia has given a great deal of forces and means to make the Soviet Union live.

Festivities Mark Ukrainian Cossack Anniversary

PM0808090590 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian
3 Aug 90 Second Edition p 1

[Report by correspondent N. Mironov: "Stand Tall, Free Men!"]

[Excerpts] Zaporozhye—In the bend of the Dnepr, where 500 years ago the free Ukrainian Cossacks emerged on the territory of today's Dnepropetrovsk and Zaporozhye Oblasts, festivities have begun to mark this momentous event. [passage omitted]

Today the anniversary has coincided with a special period in the Soviet Ukraine's present history, when the forces of national self-awareness and pride in their own glorious history—forces which had slumbered in its people for decades—have reawakened. That is why the festivities of Cossack glory, as they are called, have met with such a massive response.

Large masses of the people in national costume have been descending on historic areas from all corners of the Ukraine. As was the case in the past they come with their belongings, with several days' food supplies, and with tents so as to pitch camp on the banks of the Dnepr and recall former campaigns.

Moldavia Begins Business Cooperation With Israel

PM0708124990 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian
2 Aug 90 Morning Edition p 2

[Eduard Kondratov dispatch under the "Direct Line" rubric: "Moldova Establishes Contacts with Israeli Businessmen"]

[Text] Kishinev—Moldova has established large-scale business contacts with Israel with help from the recently created Business Cooperation Association (MoIz).

It was founded by more than 20 of Kishinev's large enterprises and cooperatives with the aim of saturating the consumer market with goods, developing the sphere of services to the population, and strengthening and augmenting foreign economic ties.

The foreign partners were eager to make contact. A group of Israeli businessmen, who arrived in Kishinev a few days ago, visited a number of enterprises that were of interest to them, and met with M. Druk, Moldova SSR [Soviet Socialist Republic] prime minister, and several members of his cabinet. As a result, a series of protocols on trade and cooperation were signed. The Israelis are prepared to buy red wine and sparkling wine from Moldova as well as wooden and metal articles, having committed themselves to supply Moldova with the latest equipment for processing vegetables, fruit, meat, and poultry, as well as machines to manufacture packaging and wrapping materials. In addition, the republic will start receiving a very wide range of scarce consumer goods from West European countries and Israel. They will be sold through the association's stores both for foreign currency and for rubles.

Talks are now going on about joint enterprises and construction projects: Preliminary agreements have been reached about constructing a four-star hotel in Kishinev and subsequently operating it on a partnership basis. The "Molz" Association intends to issue its own shares. A reciprocal business visit will soon take place and an exhibition of goods offered by Israel will open in Kishinev.

Caucasus

Armenian Supreme Soviet Elects Deputy Chairman

NC0708175590 Yerevan Domestic Service in Armenian 1630 GMT 6 Aug 90

[Excerpts] The republic's Supreme Soviet resumed its deliberations today with what can be described as renewed vigor. This was not the result of the one-day recess, but because the tension that had prevailed during a difficult struggle had been resolved. Who would occupy the highest legislative post in the republic, the chairman of the newly elected parliament of the Armenians? During the previous two weeks there was a clear struggle between the two major forces: the two deputies who represented the Armenian Communist Party and the Armenian Pannational Movement, respectively. Eventually the struggle was resolved in favor of the Armenian Pannational Movement when Levon Ter-Petrosyan, the president of the movement's administrative board, was elected chairman. He received the congratulations of the deputies and the blessing of the Edzhmiatsin Mother See.

Today he chaired the parliament's meeting with a new fervor. As deputies elected to the Supreme Soviet are banned from holding other office, Levon Ter-Petrosyan declared at the start of the morning session that as of today he was no longer the president of the administrative board of the Armenian Pannational Movement.

The session set up a commission to draw up constitutional amendments required by the declaration on the political status of Armenia.

Karen Yuzbashyan, chairman of the commission drawing up the declaration on the political status of Armenia, told the session that three versions of the declaration have been drawn up from among those considered by the commission. It was decided to reedit and distribute them and submit them for debate.

The secretariat of the session published letters and cables received from workers.

The session decided that the work undertaken by the commission formulating measures in connection with the decree of the USSR president had been completed.

Taking advantage of the right granted to him, Levon Ter-Petrosyan put forward candidates for the posts of first deputy chairman and deputy chairman of the Supreme Soviet. He presented Deputy Babken Ararktsyan, a member of the Karabakh Committee and of the administrative board of the Armenian Pannational Movement, as a candidate for the post of first deputy chairman, and Deputy Gagik Arutyunyan, chief of the socioeconomic department of the Armenian Communist Party Central Committee, as a candidate for the post of deputy chairman. [passage omitted]

After the recess, a secret ballot was held. Babken Ararktsyan was elected first deputy chairman of the Armenian Republic's Supreme Soviet by an overwhelming majority of votes and Gagik Arutyunyan was elected deputy chairman. Babken Ararktsyan then took the rostrum:

[Begin Ararktsyan recording] Esteemed chairman and deputies: I think that for me, and indeed for all of us, the most difficult thing in our work is to retain the people's trust and the trust of our parliament. If we can do that, then I think we will be successful. This is the only criterion for measuring the success of our efforts. Secondly, as I have already said, as of this very moment I withdraw from the administrative board of the Armenian Pannational Movement. I want to add that this might remain mere words unless there are guarantees that I will be independent and submit only to our Supreme Soviet while occupying this post. I think that the credentials and ethics commission to be created later must formulate such guarantees not only for me, but also for all those who may occupy certain positions in our Supreme Soviet. Thank you for the trust you have shown in me. [end recording] [passage omitted]

At the evening session of the Supreme Soviet it was decided to set up a press center of the Supreme Soviet. That was followed by deputies' speeches. The Supreme Soviet will continue its deliberations tomorrow.

Archbishop Welcomes Ter-Petrosyan's Election

NC0708171990 Yerevan Domestic Service in Armenian 0500 GMT 7 Aug 90

[From the review of KHORHRDAYIN HAYASTAN]

[Text] According to an ARMENPRES report, Levon Ter-Petrosyan, chairman of the Armenian Supreme Soviet, paid a visit to the Edzhmiatsin Mother See on 5 August to pay his respects to and be blessed by Vazgen I, the catholicos of all the Armenians.

Although the supreme patriarch, Vazgen I, was absent, a church service was held. During the service, Archbishop Nerses Pozabalyan said: Our parliament was able to elect meritorious scientist Levon Ter-Petrosyan as the worthy president of Armenia. Today, we are excited that the new president of Armenia, who was just elected yesterday, came to holy Edzhmiatsin today to take his vow together with us under the glorious vaults of holy Edzhmiatsin.

Archbishop Nerses Pozabalyan congratulated Levon Ter-Petrosyan in the name of Vazgen I, the catholicos of all Armenians, and in the name of the entire faithful Armenian people on the occasion of his election as the chairman of he Armenian Supreme Soviet. Levon Ter-Petrosyan expressed his gratitude for the warm reception.

Ter-Petrosyan Discusses 'Crisis' Situation

LD0708150190 Moscow TASS in English 1451 GMT 7 Aug 90

[By ARMENPRESS correspondent Gagik Melkumyan]

[Text] Yerevan August 7 TASS—Armenian President Levon Ter-Petrosyan has called on all home guards "to swear allegiance to the supreme body of state power of the republic" and "refrain from any unreasonable actions."

The president appealed to the Armenian people today at the session of the republican parliament, which began discussing the declaration of Armenian independence.

Ter-Petrosyan described the current situation in the republic as one of "crisis."

"Uniting people behind the idea of statehood and the national parliament, which embodies it," is the only guarantee of getting out of the crisis.

Ter-Petrosyan expressed conviction that the republic can defuse the explosive situation on its own in a short period of time if interference from outside is ruled out.

"I have grounds also to hope that federal authorities will understand our position," he said.

The Armenian president called on law-enforcement bodies to enforce law in the republic, relying on the healthy forces that make up the bulk of the home guards.

"Today we must show to the world that our national power can act not by declarations and fundamental legislative initiatives but by getting the situation under control," he said.

Soviet President Mikhail Gorbachev issued a decree on July 25 demanding that illegally armed groups on the territory of the country, not envisaged by the Soviet legislation, be disbanded within 15 days.

Ter-Petrosyan To Meet Moscow Leaders 8 Aug

LD0808085990 Moscow TASS in English 0850 GMT 8 Aug 90

[By TASS correspondent Aleksandras Budris]

[Text] Moscow August 8 TASS—Armenian President Levon Ter-Petrosyan, elected to the post last Saturday, arrived in the Soviet capital today, for meetings with Soviet leaders.

Ter-Petrosyan, 45, is leader of the Armenian National Movement, the second largest officially registered movement (after the Armenian National Army), which comprises many members of the republican parliament.

TASS learned at the Armenian permanent mission in Moscow that President Mikhail Gorbachev phoned Ter-Petrosyan on Tuesday and, congratulating him on his election, proposed to meet to discuss issues of mutual interest.

According to the Armenian mission, Ter-Petrosyan is also to meet Soviet Prime Minister Nikolay Ryzhkov, Interior Minister Vadim Bakatin, Member of the Presidential Council Aleksander Yakovlev, as well as deputies of the Russian Federation Supreme Soviet.

In particular, the Armenian president is to discuss issues connected with the July 26 decree "on prohibiting the creation of armed groups, not envisaged under Soviet Legislation, and confiscation of illegally-kept weapons."

The term of the decree expires today.

Safonov's Reappointment in NKAO Causes Concern

NC0708145790 Yerevan International Service in Armenian 1530 GMT 6 Aug 90

[Text] According to reports from Stepanakert, General Safonov has been reappointed the commandant of the state of emergency in Nagorno-Karabakh Autonomous Oblast [NKAO]. Safonov gained notoriety for his openly anti-Armenian and strongly pro-Azerbaijani administration. Of course, he was implementing that policy with Moscow and Baku support.

The reappearance of the general in the region causes serious concern. In particular, he is one of those high level officers who gave unequiovocal consent to the 25 July decree of the USSR president on prohibiting the creation of the armed formations not provided for by USSR legislation and removing illegally held weapons. His view was that that decree would finally give approval to acts without restraint.

As the materials published in the Soviet press indicate, both the Safonovites and Azerbaijan welcomed the president's decree, assuming that it refers solely to Armenia.

The territorial defense groups formed in Armenia were set up only after the massacres of Armenians in Baku in January of this year, the unpunished destruction of the Soviet-Iranian state border by the bashibozuks [looters attached to the Ottoman army] desribed as Azerbaijan People's Front, and after the attacks on the Armenian border regions. The dubious decisions made by the Soviet armed forces under these conditions forced the Armenian people to think about their own self-defense. They still need it now and will probably continue to need it as long as the NKAO's demand—reunification with motherland Armenia—has not received its just political solution.

Therefore, the failure to notice the presence of armed bandit groups in the thousands in Azerbaijan and the return of Safonov—the executioner of NKAO as people has dubbed him—have raised serious concern.

'Armed Militants' Active in Armenia

LD0708113490 Moscow TASS in English 1118 GMT 7 Aug 90

[Text] Moscow August 7 TASS—Armenian militants continue attacking soldiers, militiamen and armed checkpoints, the USSR Ministry of the Interior and military report in their information bulletins.

Militants are confiscating weapons at any cost and shots are heard not only on the border with neighbouring Azerbaijan, but also many kilometers into the interior—in the Ararat and Artashat regions, Yerevan and even remote Armenian villages.

Tensions have been escalating in recent months in Armenia. Clashes in the border region, and assaults and killings to seize weapons are accompanied by open marauding.

On April 12, militants from the armed formation Mushch were collecting money from workers of the Yerevan worsted plant. The same group threatened to kill a collective farm director if he refused to give them meat from personal needs. The same day, 15 militants attacked workers of the Yerevan tobacco factory and took money from them.

About 25 militants tried to steal new Zhiguli cars at the Masis railway station on May 8. The same day, militants stole 15 Moskvich-2141 cars from a car shop in Yerevan. In the evening of May 8, militants seized a freight train and stole 30 cars. An armed group seized two UAZ-469 cars near the building of the Armenian Communist Party Central Committee.

On June 9, militants killed a health spa director in the Ashtar region for refusing to let them a cottage.

More and more people in Soviet Armenia are coming to understand that a frightful force, uniting common criminals, is emerging in the republic. The criminal elements have taken up arms under the pretext of a noble goal to protect Armenia's sovereignty and national border. Gangsterism has no national distinctions.

The criminal armed formations are also waging war against each other. In the Artashat region, a group led by Kudaverdyan seized a militant from a group of Markaryan and killed his nine-year-old nephew. In retaliation, the Markaryan group killed Khudaverdyan and his three relatives and wounded his 11-year-old son. About 300 militants took part in the conflict on both sides.

According to the latest information bulletin from the centre for public ties with the USSR State Security Committee, a battle took place between opposing groups in the Vostan village on the night to August 3. The house of gang-leader Markaryan was the target of howitzers and grenade launchers.

Clashes Between Gangs Continue

PM0808104990 Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 8 Aug 90 First Edition p 1

[TASS correspondent report under the "Direct Line" rubric: "Elucidating Relations"]

[Text] Yerevan—In addition to the continuing attacks on servicemen and militiamen, the reports coming out of Armenia increasingly frequently mention clashes among bandit formations. Firearms are involved.

There have been several such exchanges of fire in the republic's capital in recent days. A clash outside the Sevan Hotel 3 August, for example, resulted in injuries. Two armed formations in Artashatskiy Rayon have long been engaged in a showdown. An armed clash between opposing groups involving automatic weapons, howitzers, and grenade launchers occurred in the village of Vostan. Instances of clashes between local bandit formations and terrorists driving over from Yerevan have recently become more frequent.

A struggle for power and the right to lord it over a particular territory is taking place. The republic's population, above all, is suffering as a result.

As is known, the Armenian Supreme Soviet session adopted a decision to suspend the USSR president's decree on disarming illegal armed formations on the republic's territory. This only plays into the hands of the bandit formations.

Newsmen Visit Armenian Border Area

PM0708090590 Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 1 Aug 90 First Edition p 4

[Article by special correspondents Captain Second Rank O. Odnokolenko and V. Smolyakov: "People and Weapons. Highway Checkpoints"]

[Text] Yerevan-Moscow—For several months, subunits from the division where Lieutenant Colonel A. Zozulya is the political department deputy chief, controlled quite a long section of the Armenian-Azerbaijani border. Later, security at a number of checkpoints was handed over to the Internal Troops and now the division is responsible only for the Megri sector of the railroad, well known from last year's events. If the railroad bed were to be destroyed there, Nakhichevan ASSR [Autonomous Soviet Socialist Republic] would be completely blockaded, because trying to drive to Azerbaijan through Armenia along the highway is virtually an impossible task.

We were traveling from Yerevan to Megri. Before getting in the car, Lt. Col. A. Zozulya skeptically cast his eye over our reporters' "gear"—a dictaphone and some cameras—and placed a short-barreled automatic gun and two grenades next to the seat. A precaution that was far from unnecessary, as our path passed through notorious regions.

On the way, we had a conversation about life, everyday conditions, and what it had been like for the military to serve in the Transcaucasus in the past. Many who had transferred to the reserve willingly settled permanently in these areas. But in recent years, attitudes toward the military, particularly toward officers, changed strikingly. And prices are painful, so to speak. After the Azerbaijanis, who are famed as farmers, stopped supplying fruit and vegetables to Armenia, prices generally reached astronomical proportions. For example, the first strawberries this year were sold at Yerevan markets at 150 rubles per kilogram. Some people did not find this particularly irksome, but this did not apply to officers, whose salaries are a pittance in terms of current expectations. Officers' average earnings are just enough for two kilograms of berries.

And then we arrived at Yeraskh on the border. High on a hill flew a faded banner reading: "Azerbaijan, born of October." The road was barricaded and a gun barrel was aimed directly at the windshield. The guard on duty, a soldier from the Internal Troops, talked to us while keeping his distance and without taking his hands off the submachine gun. Before long, the checkpoint commander, Sergeant Vyacheslav Rudovich, came up. He also behaved cautiously until he checked our documents. This was quite understandable: It is no problem at all for guerillas to dress in military uniform. During the many months of life beneath the open skies in settlements built on the bare soil, many soldiers' uniforms are pretty well worn out, while those men are parading around in brand new "desert" and "camouflage" uniforms that look as if they have just come out of army depots. Strange. Very strange.

During our short conversation, the sergeant warned us about one thing only—mosquitoes that "bite like dogs" during the night. He only made casual reference to the never-ending provocations by guerillas and the gun threats as if they were a common occurrence.

We were on our guard the whole way; anything could happen. But then the first checkpoint manned by the division appeared. There were firing positions dug out around the two-story building, and a sign over the entrance read: "Shooting without warning!"

While checkpoint commander Captain Yu. Yelfimov toured the checkpoint area together with the deputy chief of the political department, I talked to battery commander Captain K. Kukharchuk:

"Shooting never ceased in this area during March-April. Then the situation started to stabilize. After the meeting between the two republics' ministers of internal affairs, it was thought that things had really taken a turn for the better. And now it is bad again. For the time being they are not shooting, but you expect either an explosion or an attack at any moment. The guerrillas' use partisan-style tactics and they are well armed. I personally saw them brandishing an American M-16 rifle from a passing car. We have also confiscated from them mortars that were made at local enterprises and based on foreign models.

"Whenever a train from Azerbaijan goes by, its passengers shower the Armenians with every imaginable insult. The Armenians, in turn, reach for their weapons. And we are forced to separate the two sides, persuading and demonstrating. You are standing with a gun barrel under your nose and you think: Where will it fire—at the train or at me?"

Local residents seem to be not very well informed about the USSR presidential decree "On Prohibiting the Creation of Armed Formations Not Stipulated in USSR Legislation, and on the Confiscation of Illegally Stored Weapons." The reason is as follows: All the interesting broadcasts and important reports are deliberately jammed by someone here. False information, however, is being circulated actively and persistently. And here is a typical point: The results of such activity are already evident. Thus, one of the local residents, who was giving a lift to some officers, was quite convinced that the decree's validity did not extend to Armenia.

In the commandant's office at the Megri railroad station, we were assured that the presidential authority's strict warning apparently had little effect on the mood of the members of illegal formations. They are still driving around with weapons without making a secret of it.

The highway and the railroad in this area are controlled by an Internal Troops' checkpoint. The soldiers live and perform their service on the bare asphalt, as the saying goes. They came under concentrated automatic fire from the mountains on four occasions in two months. But nobody's spirit was broken. While we were talking about the content of the USSR president's decree, the soldiers stood silently in a circle. Then one of them observed in a serious tone: "It is the Internal Troops that are in for a tough time ahead. The guerrillas have no intention of giving up their weapons..."

As a matter of fact, there have already been losses in one of the companies subordinate to the commandant's office. The company was maintaining all-round defense and was protecting the village of Nevadi, where the population is Azerbaijani. A real battle blazed here 24 April, in which Private Yurchenko was killed. But since then, the guerillas have not dared to make an assault.

They also take the long way round the checkpoint where Senior Lieutenant Yu. Dlikin is chief.

Everything here is organized with a special kind of front-line rationale, including both the firing positions and the mess. There is even a small square where a red flag is fluttering. "Maybe it is the only one in the okrug," checkpoint chief Sr. Lt. Yu. Dlikin joked. And then its actual location is quite typical—an area scorched by the sun at the foot of the mountains. At night, jackals howl in the border area of Araks. The place is full of snakes, particularly vipers and adders. So it is better not to walk around in the dark without a flashlight.

A month ago, as soon as the subunit had occupied the place in question, there was a flood of threats: "We'll blow you up!" "We'll shoot you!"... Attempts to approach the area were made. Shepherds repeatedly drove their herds specially into the trip flare barriers. And a few days beforehand, at around 0200 hours, the sentry noticed four strangers in bulletproof vests. He illuminated them with a flare and shot at them with a submachine gun. The next morning, two blasting machines were found there. It is quite probable that this group was trying to break through to the railroad bed. People do not go around armed with such equipment for any other reason.

...So that is the situation. Most of the officers I managed to talk to believe that the decision on banning illegal armed formations and confiscating their weapons was made much too late. Even six months ago it would have been possible to restore order quickly and resolutely. Now, Sr. Lt. Yu. Dlikin believes, we may have to pay far too high a price for every gun we confiscate. And it is difficult to disagree with such a conclusion: After all, for how many months have newspaper pages been peppered with reports of attacks on servicemen, on militia detachments, and on military depots?! Was it not obvious that people were actively arming themselves?

Incidentally, a point about the mass media. During our visit to the checkpoints, many servicemen spoke indignantly about the 21 July "Vremya" program report on the Armenian Supreme Soviet sitting which denied outright the fact that a military unit deployed in the settlement of Markar had been attacked and that weapons and hostages had been seized. The unit personnel (22 signatories!) declare: None of the Armenian people's deputies came to see them and investigate this incident. The report which was broadcast earlier was actually true: Criminal elements in conspiracy with some servicemen of Armenian nationality had drugged the soldiers with soporific substances and had attacked the military unit. Many weapons were seized and hostages were taken. The hostages suffered bodily harm. And Sergeant M. Gebenov is in hospital at the moment suffering from a serious head injury.

Before we set off on our return journey, we were warned: Two vehicles that guerrillas had seized were recently confiscated from them, and now they are quite capable of retaliatory action. At these parting words, we left. At night, on the deserted highway not far from Yerevan, we noticed a vehicle without license plates and some armed people standing by it. Our "Gazik" jeep rushed past at more than 100 kilometer per hour. Soon we saw the lights of a car following us. And 20 minutes later, the city suburbs were in sight.

"Nobody can catch up with us now," Lt. Col. A. Zozulya said, and he took his hand away from the submachine gun.

Azerbaijan's Central Election Committee Meets

NC0708194190 Baku Domestic Service in Azeri 1730 GMT 3 Aug 90

[Text] The Azerbaijan Soviet Socialist Republic's central election committee has met to examine matters related to the implementation of the arrangements that have been made for the election campaign. A. Kerimov, head of the central election committee, chaired the meeting.

The meeting noted that, in accordance with the laws adopted by the 14th session of the republic's Supreme Soviet in connection with the amendments and additions to be made to the election law, the process of nominating candidates is to be completed by 5 August at the latest while the process of registering candidates is to be completed by 15 August at the latest. The meeting supported the central election committee's proposal and also established the committee's work schedule for August.

Opposition Leader Assails Georgian Leadership

PM0708175390 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 4 Aug 90 Morning Edition p 2

[Report by correspondent Valeriy Reshetnikov: "Opposition Leader's Opinion"]

[Text] Tbilisi—In a conversation with your correspondent, Georgian opposition leader Zviad Gamsakhurdia sharply criticized the actions of the republic's leaders.

In his words, the leadership only had to sense the real threat of civil disobedience to satisfy the demands by pickets in Samtredia and the collective of striking enterprises. Gamsakhurdia drew attention to the unusual nature of the situation, whereby the republic's Supreme Soviet commission cannot publicize the draft law it has prepared. Two "official" draft laws appeared quite unexpectedly—following the return of G. Gumbaridze, chairman of the Georgian Supreme Soviet Presidium, from the CPSU congress. Since then no commission sittings have been scheduled. In this situation the opposition has grounds to suppose that the timetable for the republic's Supreme Soviet session will be undermined. And thereby, in their opinion, a real threat has been created to the democratic elections planned for October-November.

The leader of the Georgian "informals" described the actions of the republic's leadership as "unconstructive" and "unethical." Gamsakhurdia stated that he can no longer trust the Georgian leadership or rely on the promises he had been given. Currently, according to information at his disposal, signatures are being actively collected at enterprises and institutions in the republic in support of the draft law prepared by the Supreme Soviet commission with the participation of representatives of "informal" organizations. To a question from your correspondent as to whether protest actions would be resumed in the event of the session being postponed, Gamsakhurdia replied that he was sure they would.

Georgian KGB Building in Tbilisi Picketed

LD0708125790 Moscow Television Service in Russian 1200 GMT 7 Aug 90

[From the "Televisin News Service" program]

[Text] In Tbilisi, activists from the Georgian National Democratic Party have begun to picket the building of the republican KGB. The pickets have demanded that the Georgian KGB leadership halt the fight against the republic's nationalist movement.

Officials on Trial for 1989 Sukhumi Events

LD0608164590 Moscow TASS in English 1634 GMT 6 Aug 90

[Text] Moscow August 6 TASS—A trial began in the USSR Supreme Court today in connection with the case of Valeriy Gurdzhua, former prosecutor of the Ochamchira district of the Abkhazian Autonomous Republic on the Black Sea coast, and Daur Shlarba, former head of the extra-departmental guarding department at the Ochamchira District Department of Internal Affairs.

According to the indictment, they are charged with transgressing authority and exceeding official powers in the period of armed clashes between Abakhazians and Georgians in July 1989.

Armed chashes took place between Abkhazian and Georgians on July 15, last year, in the city of Sukhumi, the capital of Abkhazia, which sparked off similar clashes in other areas of Abkhazia and Western Georgia, the indictment says.

People began to arrive in Sukhumi from all over Abkhazia and Western Georgia. Militia posts were set up in various districts of the city to avert unrest. In particular, the bridge over the River Galizga was cut off in Ochamchira on Sukhumi road on the evening of July 15.

People who sought to get to the city made attempts to break through. The attempts were thwarted by militia and the local population, developing into clashes between local Abkhazians and Georgians that arrived from other areas.

During the incident, an unarmed Georgian who was on his way to the Ochamchira side for talks was killed by a rifle shot. His killing, the document says, "aroused the mass indignation of the Georgian population in Gali and Zugdidi district and led to new clashes on the bridge the next morning."

A crowd gathered outside the building of the Ochamchira District Department of Internal Affairs on July 16, demanding that the Abkhazian population be issued with organic weapons [as received] and other rifle guns for defence against a possible attack.

Obviously exceeding his powers, the indictment says, Valeriy Gurdzhua, prosecutor of the Ochamchira District, also demanded the issue of weapons, but his demand was denied.

Knowing that guns, withdrawn from the population by the special instruction of the Georgian Council of Ministers, were kept in the Ochamchira district of the Agroprombank of the USSR, he led the crowd to the Agroprombank.

Upon deceiving the militiaman on duty, the prosecution maintains, Gurdzhua together with several other people entered the bank building and ordered the doors to be broken down.

The population received more than a thousand smoothbore hunting guns. On instructions from Gurdzhia and with the aid of Militia Major Daur Shlarba, 40,600 hunting gun cartriges were seized from a store and distributed among the Abkhazian population.

Gurdzhua's and Shlarba's actions, the indictment says, entailed particularly grave consequences: The aggravation of an interethnic conflict, the emergence of a new wave of unlawful actions on the part of the Georgian population in Gali and Zugdidi districts, the death of three people on both sides and the infliction of bodily injuries upon 22 people, as a result of a shoot-out following the distribution of the weapons.

Both defendants pleaded not guilty. The court began to study evidence relevant to the case.

Adler Station Chief on 'Great Losses' Sustained

PM0608112990 Moscow Television Service in Russian 1700 GMT 2 Aug 90

[From the "Vremya" newscast]

[Text] [Announcer] As reported earlier, regular train traffic has resumed on the Transcaucasian Railroad.

[Reporter] And so, one set of the railroad workers' problems has been replaced by another.

Nikolay Grigoryevich, this kind of disruption of railroad traffic surely does not pass without leaving its mark?

[N.G. Tochilov, Adler railroad station chief] Of course not. The disruption of traffic on the Transcaucasian Railroad has dealt a painful blow to the morale and the financial position of Adler railroad station and the Tuapse section of the railroad. Station staff were subjected to great stress when dispatching passengers and trains northward, the railroad section sustained great losses, dozens of trains were abandoned at interim stations. The material damage incurred during this period totals approximately a half-million rubles. Now we have to somehow make up for this. That means accepting additional work, conveying additional freight and clocking up additional passenger-kilometers. Naturally, a situation where railroad traffic is halted like this is impermissible.

Central Asia

Kazakh Supreme Soviet Examines Sovereignty Draft

LD0708231190 Alma-Ata Domestic Service in Kazakh 1400 GMT 7 Aug 90

[Excerpts] Today a meeting of the Kazakh Soviet Socialist Republic [SSR] Supreme Soviet was held, which examined the draft law on the state sovereignty of the Kazakh SSR. Taking into consideration the exchange of opinion, it was decided to publish the draft law in the press for wide discussion. There was a debate on the state of affairs concerning the implementation of the Kazakhstan light industry development program up to 1995. [passage omitted]

It also examined the draft law on the committees of the Kazakh Soviet Socialist Republic Supreme Soviet and the question of the draft declaration on economic reform in the republic was raised. Information was heard on the formation of the local soviets of the people's deputies. A working group was set up for drafting documents for invigorating the structure of bodies of power. The Supreme Soviet examined other matters concerning of the tasks of its standing committees and commissions.

Kirghiz, Uzbek Officials Hold Talks With Kremlin

Consultations Start 7 Aug

LD0708205190 Moscow Television Service in Russian 1700 GMT 7 Aug 90

[From the "Vremya" newscast]

[Excerpts] In the Kremlin today delegations of the Supreme Soviets of Uzbekistan and Kirghizia started consultations with a working group of the USSR Supreme Soviet on the concept of Union relations.

[N. Chernyshova] Each republic should work out its own vision of the new Union, hold its own dialogue with the USSR Supreme Soviet and Union government, although this conversation is more like a monologue. [video shows meeting in progress] Members of the working group of the USSR Supreme Soviet are mainly listening. The process of accumulating ideas is going on.

[Begin recording] [passage omitted] [Chernyshova] What bottlenecks were there in the talks?

[Begaliyev] There were bottlenecks especially on economic relations, relations with Union republics, legal questions which we shall have to work on further. [end recording]

[Chernyshova] Not much information, you see. All proposals are gathered independently and the working groups of the other republics at the first stage are not acquainted with them. One could say that in the Kirghiz delegation there is lively discussion of the conditions of transition to the market and proposals have been voiced on demarcation of property.

In the afternoon consultations began with the Uzbek delegation.

[Begin recording] [B.S. Khamidov, deputy chairman of the Council of Ministers of Uzbekistan] It should be said that we started with the basic positions of our republic today, the question of problems of foreign economic activity. Regarding this we consider that quotas and licences, all foreign economic relations, should be decided by the republic. We tried to get this across to all the members of the commission and I must say they have been understanding about this question today. [end recording]

[Chernyshova] Special emphasis was also placed here on demarcation of republican and union property. Work was done on defining the powers which the republic intends to hand over to the center.

[Begin recording] [passage omitted] [Tarazevich] Yesterday on your program I described briefly and in general terms the position of the Russian Federation and the Belorussian Republic. After that we had consultations with the Moldovan republic. They consider that the union of sovereign states should be built without the Union state.

[Chernyshova] How do you appraise today's work?

[Tarazevich] We received a very large volume of interesting information, which will be useful, I think, for all republics. [end recording]

Union Treaty Concepts Viewed

LD0708220290 Moscow TASS in English 2054 GMT 7 Aug 90

[Text] Moscow August 8 TASS—Round-table meetings between the working groups of the USSR Supreme Soviet and the Council of Ministers and plenipotentiary representatives from the parliaments of the Union republics continue in the Kremlin. Representatives of Kirghizia and Uzbekistan on Tuesday set out their proposals about the concept of a new Union treaty.

The leader of the Kirghiz working group, Solubek Begaliyev, deputy prime minister and chairman of the Republican State Planning Committee, pointed out that a renewed Union is essential for both political and economic reasons.

The Kirghiz SSR [Soviet Socialist Republic] favours the preservation of the USSR, the continuity of the 1922 treaty on the formation of the USSR and the transformation of intra-Union relations on a democratic basis so as to guarantee sovereignty and equality to all republics, he said.

Representatives of the republic made specific proposals on how to reflect in a new Union treaty such provisions as the determination of the status of autonomy, the list of powers that should be delegated to the centre and the establishment of a principle for unification.

A representative of the Uzbek SSR, Khamidov, deputy chairman of the Council of Ministers and chairman of the Republican State Planning Committee, specified the republic's approaches and positions on the conclusion of a new Union treaty.

The two working groups unambiguously declared for the establishment of a union of sovereign states. It was agreed that the republics would continue work on a draft new Union treaty.

Present Situation in Osh Oblast Updated

LD0708220690 Frunze Domestic Service in Kirghiz 1200 GMT 7 Aug 90

[Text] The situation in the oblast has remained unchanged in the past 24 hours. All enterprises as well as establishments and public catering are working in Osh. In the town of Uzgen, Uzgen Raykom, and the rayons near them, there were meetings between the Kirghz Aksakls on the question of improving the situation further. During the last 24 hours, 500 crimes and incidents were registered including 13 cases of hooliganism, nine bodily injuries, 28 deaths—18 of which were committed, as it turned out, during the period of the mass disorders in Uzgen. Since the beginning of the mass disturbance the number of deaths, injured, and hospitalization have not changed—88 missing persons are being sought. Over the last 24 hours, 10 firearms were confiscated in the oblast, 1,036 residents have been checked, and 57 of them have been convicted of violating passport regulations and brought to administrative account, and 87 people have been detained for breaching the curfew—of them three were subjected to administrative arrest, 56 were fined, and the rest of them were warned.

Dushanbe Party Aktiv Discusses Labor Problems

PM0708195390 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 6 Aug 90 Morning Edition p 2

[Report by correspondent Aleksandr Karpov: "Skilled Cadres Leaving the Republic"]

[Text] Dushanbe—The outflow of Russian-speakers from the republic is getting larger and larger. According to Ministry of Internal Affairs figures 33,000 people have left Tajikistan since the start of this year.

This was stated at a special conference of the Dushanbe party aktiv held at the Tajik Communist Party Central Committee.

Here are a few figures and facts quoted at the conference. Industry in the republic's capital failed to cope with the plan for the first half-year. Labor productivity at the city's enterprises fell by 3.6 percent on average. Tens of millions of rubles' worth of various contracted output was not delivered. The outflow of people is leading to the collapse of existing labor collectives. A whole series of ministries have found themselves under the most difficult conditions. More than 1,000 people have been lost from Ministry of Construction subunits, and the Ministry of Light Industry is short of 1,200 workers. The number of locomotive teams on the railroad has fallen. There are major cadre difficulties in the administration of civil aviation—pilots and ground staff are leaving. The losses of staffers at the Dushanbe TETS [heat and electric power station] are such that the city may be without heat for the coming winter. Teachers, physicians, engineers, and planners are leaving. It was particularly noted at the conference that Tajikistan is losing highly qualified specialists, who are not trained in the republic.

The law adopted last summer giving Tajik the status of state language and the well-known tragic February events, which resulted in a sharp exacerbation of interethnic relations, are the main reasons why people are leaving the republic. Most of those who spoke at the conference talked about the need to change the republic's language legislation, and proposed adopting state bilingualism.

In his response to this, K. Makhkamov, first secretary of the Tajik Communist Party Central Committee, expressed doubt about the expediency of this reinterpretation of a state act. The law on the status of the Tajik language, he stressed, in no event infringes the non-Tajik-speaking population's rights. Ignorance of and, correspondingly, failure to understand the letter and spirit of this legislation—which often leads to interethnic conflicts on everyday grounds, are another matter. We need large-scale, everyday, purposeful work to explain the main principles of the language law.

Demands have been made that the republic's government give guarantees that in the future there will be no repetition of the February tragedy, and that political stability and security will be safeguarded.

Uzbek Government Makes Decision on Cotton Harvest

LD0708211890 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1800 GMT 7 Aug 90

[Text] The cotton picking harvest is here in Uzbekistan. The republican government has adopted a special decision in this regard. Farms in Uzbekistan must cope with their tasks mainly by their own efforts and where possible without calling in the townspeople and students. In order to increase the degree of peasants' material commitment in stimulating as rapid and qualitative a crop as possible, the Council of Ministers has recommended that collective and state farms pay ten roubles per tonne of machine-picked cotton and 25 kopeks per kilogram of hand-picked cotton. This is considerably higher than before.

A rich crop is ripening on the fields of Uzbekistan. The cotton farmers are preparing harvesting equipment because only this will enable the harvest to be completed in the quickest possible time.